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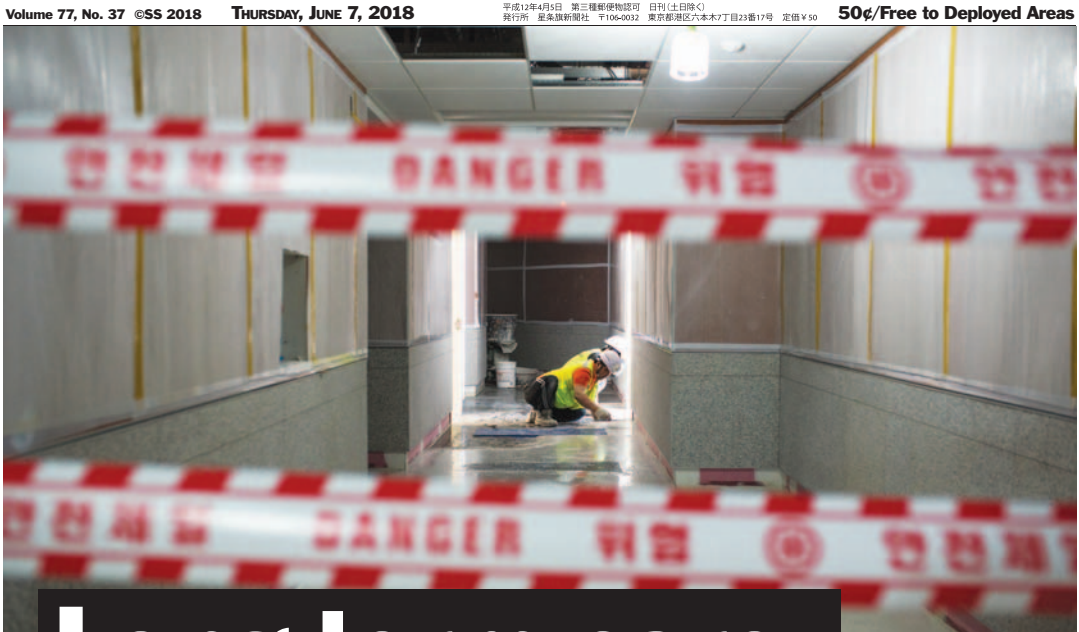

Long-term care

Humphreys hospital nearly complete, but opening day's still far away » Page 6

South Korean workers finish a floor at the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital and Ambulatory Care Center at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on April 18.

MARCUS FICHTL/Stars and Stripes

US gives Humvees to Afghan army, then blows them up when they fall into Taliban hands

BY JIM MICHAELS
USA Today

American warplanes have destroyed about 40 U.S.-supplied Humvees that the Taliban captured from Afghanistan's military over the past several years, according to coalition military statistics provided to USA Today.

The statistics highlight a recurring problem: Taliban fighters have frequently attacked Afghan government outposts throughout the country, capturing U.S.-supplied equipment and then disappearing into the countryside. They have also run off with weapons and other equipment.

SEE HUMVEES ON PAGE 10

An Afghan National Army Humvee moves through a training course in Helmand province in March 2017.

Courtesy of NATO

PACIFIC

Experts: Summit goal must be full denuclearization

By Claudia Grisales
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Days ahead of the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, two former top U.S. advisers urged the president not to give up crucial demands during the high-stakes meeting in Singapore.

The on-again, off-again June 12 summit now appears to have softened the Trump administration's demands for North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons, the two former advisers told a Senate panel Tuesday.

"We are in a materially different place than where we were a year ago, or even six months ago … tensions are materially down," Joseph Yun, a senior adviser at the federally funded think tank U.S. Institute for Peace, testified before a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee hearing. "Related to that, however, is the concern now on whether the administration is now placing the bar too low on denuclearization."

Yun, who left his post as U.S. special representative for North Korea policy in March, and Victor Cha, who was recently considered a nominee to become U.S. ambassador to South Korea, argued Tuesday that the summit's ultimate goal still should be Kim's steps toward complete denuclearization, which would entail dismantlement of nuclear weapons, removal of all fissile materials and freezing of production capacity.

Cha, a senior adviser at the Washington think tank the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the United States must be leery of giving up too much too soon in its negotiations. It should aim for new security assurances for the United States, policies that facilitate broader U.S. strategic objectives in Asia, coordination with allies, support for a peace dialogue on the peninsula and requirements for North Korea to address its human rights abuses, he said.

"A summit is not a strategy, and a summit without a strategy is dangerous," warned Cha, who in January was withdrawn from consideration to be a U.S. ambassador apparently after he disagreed with White House interest in a limited strike against North Korea. "The United States needs to have clear focus on our objectives in this negotiation and must stay closely aligned with Congress and with our allies on achieving these objectives."

Cha said when asked what will be the outcome of the Trump-Kim summit — an agreement to full denuclearization or a failed meeting that leads to a new escalation of war threats — he sees a result that falls somewhere in the middle. That is, a plan that marks progress toward eventual denuclearization, but short of complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement along the lines of the Libya model, he said.

Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., warned that regardless of the summit outcome, a U.S. military strike is not an option.

"There is no military solution to this problem. Direct diplomacy backed by economic pressure is the only result that will resolve the North Korea crisis," said Markey, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific and international cybersecurity policy. "While North Korea is coming to the table, we have not yet compelled it to accept our definition of denuclearization — one where the Kim regime relinquishes its weapons and its means to produce more."

Sen. James Risch, R-Idaho, disagreed. He said military options remain on the table.

"The choice for military solutions is not ours, it is his," Risch said, referencing Kim. "He was told by the international community, by the president, what the red line was and what he could not do, and if he crossed that red line there was going be a military solution, not of our choosing. The cards are in his hands in that regard."

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S. Korea to push North for recovery of soldiers' remains

By Kim Gamel
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea will take advantage of improved relations with the North to push for the recovery of remains of soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War, President Moon Jae-in said Wednesday.

More than 120,000 South Korean troops and 7,702 U.S. troops remain unaccounted for, many believed lost on the North Korean side of the heavily fortified border that divides the peninsula.

Moon expressed hope that the burgeoning détente with the North would allow teams to start by retrieving remains from the Demilitarized Zone, a 154-mile-long, 2.5-mile-wide no man's land that's dotted with land mines and lined with barbed wire.

"We will continue efforts to recover the remains of members of the military and police who fell during the Korean War until we find the last remaining person," Moon said during a Memorial Day ceremony at Daejeon National Cemetery.

"When the South-North relations improve, we will push first for the recovery of remains in the Demilitarized Zone," he said. "We will also be able to retrieve the remains of U.S. and other foreign soldiers who participated in the war."

Officials also have suggested that President Donald Trump could bring up the issue in his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Tuesday in Singapore.

The North freed three American prisoners and handed them over to visiting Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in what was widely seen as a goodwill gesture ahead of the first summit between the two countries.

Veteran diplomat Bill Richardson, the former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, has said "the return of some remains of our soldiers from the Korean War to their families" would also contribute to "a friendly summit."

Sixteen countries fought with South Korea under the U.N. flag during the war, which ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty. Efforts to recover remains have been subject to the on-again, off-again diplomacy with the North.

Joint U.S.-North Korean military search teams recovered 229 sets of American remains between 1996 and 2005, but the effort was called off after the George W. Bush administration claimed the safety of the American participants was not guaranteed. Critics also argued the North was using it to extract cash from the United States.

South Korea's Ministry of National Defense also established a unit in 2007 to search for remains, but its efforts have been limited to the southern half of the peninsula. It cooperates with the U.S. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which lists 7,702 missing personnel on its website.

The Killed in Action Recovery and Identification unit known as MAKRI says it has unearthed only about 9,800 sets of remains, identifying 128 South Korean soldiers and eight Americans who have been repatriated.

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MILITARY

General upholds Bergdahl sentence

By Corey Dickstein
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A top Army general on Monday approved the sentence handed down to Pvt. Bowe Bergdahl, the former Taliban captive who was spared prison time after pleading guilty to desertion and misbehavior charges last year.

Gen. Robert Abrams, the chief of U.S. Army Forces Command, upheld the sentence handed down by the judge, Army Col. Jeffery R. Nance, in November at the conclusion of a weeklong sentencing hearing in Bergdahl's court-martial, FORSCOM spokesman John Boyce said Tuesday in a statement. Abrams was the convening authority in the court-martial, the senior official who oversees the case and must review and approve the judge's findings.

Nance sentenced Bergdahl to forfeit $10,000 in pay and receive a drop in rank from sergeant to E-1 private and a dishonorable discharge, which stops him from receiving any medical or other benefits offered to most veterans. The judge could have sentenced him to as much as life in prison. Prosecutors had requested Bergdahl serve 14 years confinement.

Nance has never publicly acknowledged his reasons for the sentence.

His decision to spare the soldier prison time sparked outrage among some people in the military community and drew the ire of President Donald Trump within hours of his ruling. Trump tweeted the sentence was "a complete and total disgrace to our country and to our military."

Before Bergdahl pleaded guilty, defense attorneys had attempted to have the case thrown out over repeated disparaging remarks that Trump made as a presidential candidate. Legal scholars concluded Nance likely handed down a lenient sentence, at least in part, because of Trump's campaign trail rhetoric.

Because Nance handed down a punitive discharge in his sentence, the case automatically goes to the Army Court of Criminal Appeals at Fort Belvoir, Va., for review.

Bergdahl, 32, walked off his post in eastern Afghanistan's Paktika province on June 30, 2009, and was captured and held for about five years by Taliban-linked militants in Pakistan before he was released to the United States in a controversial prisoner exchange for five Taliban commanders who had been held in the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

The Army charged him in March 2015 with "misbehavior before the enemy by endangering the safety of a command, unit or place" and "desertion with intent to shirk important or hazardous duty."

During his sentencing trial, which was completed Nov. 3 at Fort Bragg, N.C., Bergdahl said he left his post in an attempt to walk to a forward operating base some 20 miles away to alert military brass of problems that he perceived within his unit.

Bergdahl apologized for his actions, calling them a "horrible mistake," in a tearful apology to his platoon-mates and other servicemembers who were sent searching for him, including three who prosecutors said were severely wounded on operations focused solely on rescuing him.

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Col. Mark Coppess

Marine head at Futenma is ousted

By Seth Robson
Stars and Stripes

The Marine Corps has relieved the head of one of its most important Pacific bases due to a "loss of trust and confidence in his ability to lead his command."

Col. Mark Coppess was fired Tuesday from his job as commander of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, by Marine Corps Installations Pacific chief Brig. Gen. Paul Rock, a III Marine Expeditionary Force statement said.

Futenma is home to about 3,000 Marines from the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and other units on a southern island prefecture that is strategically important to stability in the region and deterring aggression from China and North Korea.

However, operations there have been unpopular with some locals, and an effort to relocate the base to rural northern Okinawa has been a major political and diplomatic issue for the United States and Japan.

This year, people living near Futenma have complained about falling aircraft parts and aircraft flying over schools. In January, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis apologized to his Japanese counterpart, Itsunori Onodera, for a string of mishaps, including the emergency landings of Okinawa-based Marine Corps helicopters.

Coppess took over Futenma on June 4, 2017. Col. David Steele was to assume command of the air station on Wednesday, the Marine statement said.

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Magazine honors West Point graduate

By Leon Cook
Stars and Stripes

A groundbreaking West Point graduate was recently named among Glamour magazine's "2018 College Women of the Year."

Simone Askew, 21, of Fairfax, Va., was the first black woman to lead "The Long Gray Line," serving as first captain of the U.S. Military Academy's Corps of Cadets, the highest rank of student leadership.

Askew — who was awarded the rank of second lieutenant at her May 26 graduation — was responsible for the overall performance of the academy's nearly 4,400 cadets. She was also charged with implementing a class agenda and serving as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

Last November, the international history major was one of 32 Americans honored with a Rhodes scholarship. She hopes to enter the field of military intelligence.

West Point commandant Brig. Gen. Steve Gilland praised Askew last August after her selection as first captain, saying she exemplified the academy's values of duty, honor and country.

James McCann/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Simone Askew, first captain of the U.S. Military Academy's Corps of Cadets, sings the alma mater during her May 26 graduation. Glamour magazine named Askew one of its "2018 College Women of the Year."

Askew spoke about how she felt to be selected for the role in an interview with Glamour.

"People ask me, 'What's it like to be the first black woman in your position?' And I'm like, 'The same way it felt to be a black woman for the past 21 years.' I'm sensitive to how I perceive others, because I've been frustrated with the limitations of how people perceive me," she told the magazine.

Askew also revealed she had been sexually assaulted during cadet basic training.

"The most important thing for us is not to define West Point as a boys' club. The boys aren't in charge here. I'm in charge," she said. "For me, it's about, how can we be good to one another? I'm focused on incorporating into our curriculum what right looks like, instead of just avoiding what wrong looks like."

Other students honored by Glamour this year include Amanda Gorman, the first youth poet laureate of the United States; Ann Makosinski, who invented a flashlight that runs on body heat and won Google's Science Fair; Maria Rose Belding, who created a system to alert food banks when free food is available near them; Claire Wineland, who has cystic fibrosis and created a foundation to help others deal with the disease; and Karen Caudillo, a member of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program who's fighting for a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

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Okinawa police: Marine questioned after car hits, kills man sleeping on road

By Caitlin Doornbos and Aya Ichihashi
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A Camp Hansen Marine struck and killed a Japanese man with his vehicle while the victim was sleeping on a motorway Wednesday in Okinawa prefecture, according to local police.

Sgt. David Hardy was driving to work on Highway 75 in Uruma about 3:20 a.m. when he hit Morio Sakumoto, 63, who was sleeping in the roadway, an Uruma police deputy chief said. Sakumoto was later pronounced dead at a local hospital.

Hardy was taken to a police station for questioning, but the deputy chief did not know whether the Marine had been released or was still in custody Wednesday afternoon.

Police said alcohol was not involved.

A Camp Hansen spokesperson could not be immediately reached for comment.

The incident is the second fatal vehicle accident involving a Camp Hansen Marine in about a week.

Cpl. Mauricio Ambriz Camacho, 21, was in Japanese police custody Friday, just days after his car collided with a motorcycle, killing its Japanese driver.

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MILITARY

NATO moves to boost worldwide readiness

By John Vandiver
Stars and Stripes

NATO will attempt to boost its combat readiness through a new "four thirties" initiative, which calls for having 30 mechanized battalions, 30 air squadrons and 30 combat ships that can deploy within 30 days, the alliance's top official said Wednesday.

NATO defense ministers, including U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, are expected to agree to the program when they convene in Brussels on Thursday for two days of talks on the state of the alliance.

"It is about boosting the readiness of existing forces," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said during a news conference at his Brussels headquarters.

The readiness initiative means that by 2020, allies must be able to deploy the various units within 30 days. The effort is the latest push to transform NATO into a more nimble military alliance that can respond to threats on shorter notice.

Also Wednesday, NATO announced the location for two new commands designed to ensure the movement of forces across the Atlantic in case of a crisis in Europe.

Stoltenberg said allies would agree to stand up a new "Joint Force Command for the Atlantic" in Norfolk, Va., and a new "Enabling Command" in Ulm, Germany.

The moves will boost NATO's command structure by 1,200 personnel.

"These will be key to move our troops across the Atlantic and within Europe without delay, whenever needed, to ensure we have the right forces in the right place at the right time," Stoltenberg said.

The new commands are in response to concerns about a more aggressive Russia. They come after years of cutbacks to NATO's command organization, which included 22,000 troops at the end of the Cold War. There are now roughly 7,000 troops in NATO's command structure.

Defense spending among allies is expected to loom over discussions in Brussels this week. The NATO ministerial comes ahead of a July summit of heads of state, which President Donald Trump is expected to attend.

Trump has singled out members that fall short of an alliance benchmark that calls for dedicating 2 percent of gross domestic product on the military. He has been especially forceful with Germany, which has no concrete plan to meet the benchmark by NATO's 2024 deadline.

But Stoltenberg said Wednesday that allies have "turned a corner" in dedicating more resources to defense.

"The trend is up, and we intend to maintain the momentum," he said. "All allies have now stopped the cuts in defense spending and started to increase."

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Grace Hollars, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch/AP

Emergency personnel surround a National Guard military vehicle stolen Tuesday from Fort Pickett, Va. Virginia police followed a soldier in the vehicle for more than 60 miles.

Police: Va. National Guard officer stole armored personnel carrier from base

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — A soldier who was chased by police for more than 60 miles after he stole an armored personnel carrier from a National Guard base was driving under the influence of drugs, Virginia State Police said Wednesday.

Joshua Philip Yabut, 29, of Richmond, was charged with eluding police and unauthorized use of a vehicle, the Virginia National Guard said in a news release.

Yabut is a first lieutenant assigned as the company commander of the 276th Engineer Battalion and has more than 11 years of service. He deployed to Afghanistan from 2008 to 2009 with the Illinois National Guard, according to the Guard.

The vehicle was stolen Tuesday evening from Fort Pickett and was chased by police for about two hours at speeds as high as 40 mph before the driver stopped and surrendered near Richmond's City Hall, state police said.

The Guard said the personnel carrier was stolen during routine training at Fort Pickett and has been returned to the base in Blackstone. The vehicle wasn't equipped with any weapons, but Yabut had his personal weapon with him without any ammunition, the Guard said.

Police declined to comment on Yabut's motive for stealing the vehicle. They said the investigation is ongoing.

Yabut was being held at the Richmond jail.

EUROPE

WWII airman's remains coming home from Slovenia

By Jennifer H. Svan
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — More than 74 years after his B-24 Liberator was shot down over the former Yugoslavia in World War II, Army Air Forces Sgt. Alfonso O. Duran is coming home.

Duran's family in the United States learned late last month that remains recovered by a U.S. government team last summer next to a church in the Slovenian countryside were identified as their relative.

Pat Duran, who pressured the Defense Department to recover her uncle's remains after efforts ground to a halt, said the news was bittersweet for her and her family.

"We cried and reminded each other of the efforts we made to move this along, and how often we despaired of ever seeing this moment, but it came," Pat Duran said. "Of course, there is still a certain degree of sadness that he was lost so young and that his parents and siblings were never able to have closure."

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency said Duran's remains were formally accounted for on May 22.

Duran was last seen on Feb. 25, 1944, part of a 10-man crew that day on a B-24H Liberator, nicknamed "Knock it Off," assigned to the 724th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 451st Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force.

On the final day of Operation Argument, Duran's aircraft was flying in a formation from Gioia del Colle, Italy, to bomb a German aircraft factory in Regensburg when it came under attack by German fighters and anti-aircraft fire.

> **'We are so grateful to everyone who contributed to his return ... We wish we could thank every last one of them personally.'**
>
> **Pat Duran**
> niece of Sgt. Alfonso Duran

The tail gunner in another aircraft witnessed a direct hit on Duran's aircraft, which tore off a section of the right wing, according to DPAA. The aircraft plunged into a steep dive and passed out of sight.

Duran was last seen alive in the aircraft, but it's believed he did not bail out, according to DPAA. All nine of Duran's crewmates bailed out, were captured and were interrogated in Verona, Italy, where they were told that one body had been found in the aircraft wreckage, according to the DPAA.

The crash site was reported to be located near present-day Ljubljana, Slovenia, an area then under enemy control.

The trail went cold for more than 70 years. Pat Duran, who was born 10 years after Duran went missing, grew up with the idea her uncle "was lost somewhere and he'll never be found," she said last summer.

Then, in 2006, Slovenian researchers provided information about a B-24 Liberator that crashed on Feb. 25, 1944, near Pokojisce — a small village in the mountains not far from the capital city of Ljubljana — and mentioned the grave of an airman.

Investigators with the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, a predecessor of the DPAA, conducted field research missions and concluded in 2012 that the remains of an airman buried behind the church in Pokojisce were likely those of Duran.

But the search stalled, slowed in part by a major reorganization at the time of the POW/MIA command. Pat Duran contacted her senator and, with help from Renata Gutnik, a Slovenian military researcher who first told Duran of her uncle's possible whereabouts, the DPAA secured permits to do an excavation last summer by the village church.

It was an intense campaign "to get the recovery process started, and we nearly gave up a few times," Pat Duran said. "But once the Army committed to the recovery, it seemed to go fairly fast."

In July, the DPAA team began digging where researchers were told an airman's remains were moved in the 1960s to a common grave marked by a large headstone. After two days, the team unearthed only dirt and rocks.

A tip from a local, however, led the team to the airman's original burial site by the church, where members soon found possible human remains.

The DPAA in a statement did not elaborate on how they were able to identify Duran's remains. The identification process can sometimes take years.

"My understanding is that they were able to make a definitive identification through the DNA samples sent in by family members," Pat Duran said.

Pat Duran said her uncle's remains will likely be interred in a cemetery in Santa Fe, N.M., near where he grew up.

Duran's name is recorded on the Tables of the Missing at the Florence American Cemetery in Impruneta, Italy, along with those of other servicemembers missing in action from World War II. A rosette marker will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for, the DPAA said.

Both the DPAA and Pat Duran expressed gratitude for the numerous agencies and individuals that assisted in the recovery effort.

"We are so grateful to everyone who contributed to his return — the DPAA, Renata, the Slovenian government officials, and the villagers that tried to protect his remains," Pat Duran said of her uncle. "We wish we could thank every last one of them personally."

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PHOTOS BY MARCUS FICHTL/Stars and Stripes

A new hospital under construction at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, is seen May 14. The hospital is nearly complete, but its opening isn't expected until fall 2019.

Humphreys hospital nearing completion

Because of many issues and delays, opening day is still far away

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — No building epitomizes the problems that have plagued the expansion of this Army garrison south of Seoul more than its new hospital.

The U.S. military broke ground for the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital and Ambulatory Care Center in November 2012 on land that had been used for helicopter hangars. But numerous quality control issues and delays filled the years that followed as the South Korean contractor struggled to meet rigid U.S. standards.

The South Korean-funded construction of the five-story, 68-bed complex is slated to be largely finished and accepted by U.S. authorities by the end of June, nearly three years past the original deadline and $67 million over budget.

Americans will then begin furnishing and equipping the facility, which is due to open for patients on Nov. 15, 2019.

That will mark a major milestone in the much-delayed relocation of most U.S. forces south of Seoul since it will allow the hospital at Yongsan Garrison to close and trigger the movement of the last major unit to Humphreys, planners say.

The final product will offer improvements over its namesake at Yongsan, including a room for cesarean sections in the maternity unit, a new MRI and more comfortable and secure surroundings with improved energy efficiency.

"The truth is, it hasn't all been rosy, but the truth is, the end state really is world class. It's on par with anything we're building anyplace," said David Fortune, deputy regional program manager for the Army's health facility planning agency. "It is worth waiting for."

Workers develop the exteriors of the hospital under construction at Camp Humphreys on April 18.

The hospital at Yongsan will remain open in the meantime, and Humphreys has two new primary care clinics to prevent a vacuum in care, although officials acknowledge that Humphreys' rapidly growing population will still face inconveniences during the transition.

Pregnant women, for example, must go to Yongsan or a local hospital for delivery, raising safety concerns because of the commute.

Officials have developed a "stork's nest" program to allow families to stay at Yongsan in the days before the baby is due, with reduced rates at the on-post Dragon Hill Lodge and at four vacant houses near the hospital.

"Then you won't have to worry about trying to deliver in traffic," deputy commander for medical services Lt. Col. Jeremy Johnson said last month during a town hall meeting. "By the way, no one has delivered in traffic."

What went wrong?

The United States and South Korea agreed in 2004 to relocate the bulk of the 28,500 U.S. servicemembers, their families and civilian contractors south of the capital.

Seoul provided the labor and funded most of the nearly $11 billion expansion of Humphreys, a former remote outpost in the rural area of Pyeongtaek, 40 miles south of Seoul.

The move was supposed to take place in 2008, but was repeatedly delayed because of construction problems, corruption and political concerns.

In 2015, police linked two South Korean suicides to the Humphreys expansion, including an employee overseeing the hospital's construction who reportedly hanged himself after being demoted for failing to meet building deadlines.

The relocation has gained momentum since the Eighth Army moved its headquarters last summer, and the base now resembles an American suburb, with a population that has more than doubled to 26,000 and will eventually reach 40,000.

The hospital — known by its acronym, BAACH — will be one of the last major facilities to open.

Fortune pointed to scratches on walls and sharp edges that need to be removed from fixtures in rooms in the behavioral unit as he walked through a part of the hospital considered finished during a tour last month.

"We still have some things to correct," he said, adding that the contractor will be responsible for repairs under a two-year warranty that takes effect when the facility is accepted onto the garrison.

Bulldozers worked outside near a drainage pond surrounded by a walking path as workers rush to finish the project by June 30, with the sound of drills and the smell of burnt metal on the lower floors.

The South Korean contractor, Samsung C&T Corp., blames the delay on differences in construction codes and language and cultural issues that "had to be successfully overcome to reach the point we are at today, having completely remediated all of our U.S. partner's quality concerns and nearing the completion of the hospital construction."

The hospital has taken so long to build that new U.S. standards and practices for handling hazardous drugs have forced revisions to the design of the six-window pharmacy.

Work will continue on the pharmacy and a biological containment laboratory through the end of the summer, but that is "not expected to impact transition to patient care activities," Samsung C&T said in responses to questions by the 65th Medical Brigade public affairs office.

The company declined a request by Stars and Stripes for a separate interview.

Turning point

The problems of the past are over, Fortune said, with improved communication and stepped-up oversight.

A turning point was a 2015 letter by the Army Corps of Engineers Far East District outlining nine quality issues that were subsequently fixed.

The most significant challenges were the lack of skirting on the roof and the need to cut out and replace most of the piping because of poor welding craftsmanship, Fortune said.

The Americans had to channel requests and complaints through the South Korean government instead of directly with the contractor. The U.S. also came under criticism for failing to conduct standard inspections.

"No one was blameless," said Fortune, who started at Humphreys in March 2015 and has been involved with the construction of six other Army hospitals.

The Army Surgeon General's Office and Congress intervened, and Fortune took the South Koreans to see military hospitals in the United States.

"The U.S. government replaced about 65 percent of the folks that were working with the Corps of Engineers on this project. And the construction contractor replaced all of his key players on the top line of his organization," Fortune said. "There was a cleaning house and it was more than just personnel. It was also practices."

The contractor increased its on-site workforce to about 250

SEE DELAYS ON PAGE 7

'The truth is, it hasn't all been rosy, but ... the end state really is world class. It is worth waiting for.'

David Fortune
deputy regional program manager for the Army's health facility planning agency

PACIFIC

Delays: Facility will have room for growth

FROM PAGE 6

employees and began working nearly every day.

"The important point is we're moving forward now. Patients don't have to worry," Fortune said. "The facility is going to be the same level of quality as anything where they would receive care" in the United States.

'World-class facility'

The Yongsan hospital, formerly known as the 121st General Hospital, underwent multimillion-dollar renovations more than a decade ago and was renamed in 2008 in honor of Col. Brian Allgood, a former hospital commander who was killed in Iraq.

The new BAACH, which will support 65,000 beneficiaries and 5,000 patient admissions annually, has been meticulously designed to comply with U.S. standards and to earn the designation "world-class facility," Fortune said.

It also has an energy-efficient green roof, which was one of the first features finished because the contractor is working from the top down.

The fifth floor includes the women and infant care unit, with two delivery rooms and six recovery rooms with remote controls to adjust lighting and temperature.

The location in the older part of Camp Humphreys ensures it's built on bedrock and puts it near the medevac operation to allow quick transport of trauma patients and others who need treatment elsewhere, Fortune said. The windows are reinforced and soundproof so patients and others can see but not hear the helicopters, he said.

The in-patient behavioral health unit has 14 rooms with furniture bolted to the floors and gym mats doubling as bathroom doors. The high-security ward includes an outdoor patio and has controlled access with video surveillance and interlocking doors.

"Every effort was made to make this a fairly nice space as well. It's not supposed to be antiseptic," Fortune said.

South Korea's cost for the BAACH construction is expected to be about $224 million — 40 percent more than the original estimate of $157 million, Fortune said. The U.S. will pay about $50 million to furnish and equip the facility.

Fortune stressed that the finished facility will comply with all U.S. standards, including a 120-volt electrical system with hospital-grade receptacles and emergency power systems.

It also has room for growth.

"We expect to operate this building for 50 years, and we can't project what kind of medical equipment will go into this facility even 10 years down the road," he said.

Scott Lawrence, project manager with U.S.-based BTF Solutions, which is handling the outfitting phase, said most of the 18,000 pieces of equipment will be new. Only about 4 percent of equipment from Yongsan will be eligible for reuse.

"It'll be fully equipped by the end of September 2019," he said. "Then we'll start our transition process … so that we can hit the opening date of early to mid-November 2019."

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MARCUS FICHTL/Stars and Stripes

Workers build a doorframe at the hospital at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on April 18.

China warns US after B-52 flyby

Associated Press

BEIJING — China lashed out at the U.S. on Wednesday after a pair of B-52 bombers flew past a Chinese-held shoal in the South China Sea amid escalating words and displays of military strength from the two major Pacific powers.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying warned the U.S. against "hyping up militarization and stirring up trouble," while promising that China would take all necessary measures to defend its sovereignty.

The U.S. "doing whatever they want is risky, and China will not be threatened by any military warships," Hua told reporters at a daily briefing in Beijing.

This week's flyby near Scarborough Shoal, which China took from the Philippines in 2012, came after U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis accused Beijing of "intimidation and coercion" in the South China Sea. China claims almost the entirety of the sea despite overlapping claims from neighbors including the Philippines, Vietnam and Taiwan.

Speaking at a summit of top security officials in Singapore last weekend, Mattis said China has deployed anti-ship missiles and surface-to-air missiles and landed nuclear capable bombers on the disputed islands.

He vowed that the Indo-Pacific would remain a "priority theater" for U.S. forces.

MILITARY

GAO: Fix F-35 defects before full production

By Tony Capaccio
Bloomberg

The Defense Department office that oversees the F-35 program was criticized by a government watchdog for its plans to delay fixing critical deficiencies on the fighter until after a decision to start full-rate production is made — a move that won't come before October 2019.

The F-35 — the world's most expensive weapons program — had 966 "open deficiencies" as of January, the Government Accountability Office said in an annual report released Tuesday. Of those, at least 180 "will not be resolved before full-rate production" under the Pentagon office's current plans, according to the report.

The production decision would commit the U.S. to building 77 or more of the Lockheed Martin aircraft per year over the next 12 years, up from 70 this year. Output would peak at 105 aircraft in 2023 at an annual cost of $13.4 billion and stay at that rate for six years. That makes it imperative for the Pentagon to fix the deficiencies before a decision about production — the most profitable phase for Lockheed — is made, the report said.

The troubled $406.5 billion F-35 is a next-generation fighter scheduled to end its 17-year development phase this year. Starting in September, the program is supposed to proceed to intense combat testing that's likely to take a year, an exercise that is already at least 12 months late. Combat testing is necessary before the plane can be approved for full-rate production.

Over the past year, the Pentagon "has made progress in completing the F-35 development program," GAO said. "However, in its rush to cross the finish line, the program has made some decisions that are likely to affect aircraft performance and reliability and maintainability for years to come."

The GAO report broke down the shortfalls into two categories. Category 1 deficiencies are defined as "those that could jeopardize safety, security, or another critical requirement," while Category 2 deficiencies "are those that could impede or constrain successful mission accomplishment." The report cited 111 Category 1 and 855 Category 2 deficiencies.

"If reliability targets are not met, the military services and the taxpayer will have to settle for aircraft that are less reliable, more costly, and take longer to maintain," according to the GAO report. "Given that the program's long-term affordability is already in question, ensuring the aircraft is reliable by each variant's planned maturity is paramount."

F-35 program office spokesman Joe DellaVedova said via email that, as with past GAO assessments, this one was completed with the office's "full cooperation and unfettered access to information. There were no surprises in the report and the items mentioned are well-known," he said.

"The program already has actions in work for the GAO's recommendations to address deficiencies and identify steps to meet reliability and maintainability requirements," he said. Officials expect the F-35 Program "to resolve all critical deficiencies prior to entering" combat testing "with either a fix," a service-approved workaround "or a formal acceptance of the deficiency."

Kent Harris/Stars and Stripes

An airman from the 57th Rescue Squadron prepares to touch down on Aviano Air Base, Italy, during a training jump Tuesday.

New Aviano airmen parachute in ahead of realignment event

By Kent Harris
Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — The airmen assigned to the newest units of the 31st Fighter Wing won't all be parachuting onto base like the five that jumped on Tuesday, though dozens more probably could do that.

The 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons officially become a part of the wing in a realignment ceremony scheduled for June 14.

Depending on weather conditions, that will include a jump like the one the squadrons conducted Tuesday evening when five pararescuers parachuted from a helicopter onto the base.

About half of the 300 or so airmen from the rescue squadrons and a unit of helicopter maintainers are already on site ahead of the ceremony next week. The rest are expected to be here within a few months.

A small team from each squadron made the move from RAF Lakenheath, England, almost a year ago, and they've been getting set up and meeting potential training partners on and off base.

"The (training) potential here is massive," said Maj. Augustin, assistant director of operations for the 57th, who is identified by only his first name for security reasons. "Now, it's just getting to understand the processes."

Aviano's proximity to the Dolomites, a mountain range in the southern Alps, creates opportunities that the unit didn't have in England, Augustin said. Nearby lakes and the Adriatic Sea will help keep airmen proficient in water rescue operations.

The 57th is made up of pararescuers, ground control personnel and other assets that allow the unit to rescue downed pilots or others in need of quick aid. They can operate out of helicopters piloted by the 56th, C-130 aircraft based in Europe or in the United States, and several other platforms.

The 56th will maintain a handful of HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters, though only a few are slated to be operational at any one time.

Both squadrons are expected to train extensively with Italian military units and civilian rescue experts. Several airmen have already undertaken avalanche and search-and-rescue courses with Italian experts, officials said.

The 56th and 57th, whose members train to be available around-the-clock, are the only squadrons of their kind in Europe. The units interact heavily with allied countries in Europe and Africa, serving as mentors while trying to learn lessons as well, Augustin said.

Not having any real-world missions during a tour at Aviano wouldn't be a bad thing, he added. "Of course, we don't want (emergencies) to happen," he said. "But we're trained and prepared if they do. It's usually the worst day in someone's life if they need us. But if someone does need us, we will be ready."

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$24M deal to replace Air Force One refrigerators canceled

By Paul Sonne
The Washington Post

The U.S. Air Force has decided to terminate a $24 million contract awarded to Boeing to replace refrigerators on Air Force One after news of the upgrade prompted concern among Capitol Hill lawmakers.

The Air Force, working with the White House Military Office, reviewed the investment for the "chiller replacement" and decided to terminate the effort, weighing the high cost of the new refrigerators against progress on replacement planes for Air Force One that are in the works, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson said.

If the delivery of the replacement presidential jets is delayed, the Air Force and the White House Military Office may need to reconsider buying the new refrigerators, Wilson added in a May 29 letter to Rep. Joe Courtney, D-Conn., that the lawmaker published this week.

The Air Force has said the refrigerators on Air Force One are based on old technology and were designed for short-term food storage and increasingly failing in hot and humid environments. From now until the delivery of the new fleet, the Air Force plans to apply interim fixes, which Wilson described as "mitigation options."

"While not optimal, mitigation options exist to ensure food security until new aircraft are delivered," Wilson said in the letter. "The Air Force has notified Boeing of the government's intention to cancel the subject contract."

The decision comes a little over five months after the Air Force awarded a government contract to Boeing, agreeing to pay $23,657,671 to replace two of the five chiller units on the planes used by President Donald Trump.

Technically speaking, any plane the president is traveling on becomes known as Air Force One for the duration of the commander in chief's travel, but two 28-year-old modified Boeing 747s generally operate as Air Force One.

Boeing reached a deal this year to build replacements for those two presidential airplanes for $3.9 billion, to be delivered as early as 2024. The deal came after months of negotiations that followed Trump's threat to cancel the program due to high costs. The White House said the revised deal with Boeing for the two airplanes would save taxpayers more than $1.4 billion.

The high-cost refrigerator contract was first reported by Defense One, which said the Air Force had been looking for chillers that could store about 3,000 meals to feed passengers and crew for weeks without resupplying.

Courtney, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services subcommittee on sea power and projection forces, who had inquired about the refrigerator contract, praised the Air Force for terminating it, saying it "didn't pass the smell test."

"I commend the Air Force for reversing this decision and look forward to working with them to ensure the next-generation Air Force One program stays on schedule," Courtney said in a statement.

MILITARY

Courtesy photo

A U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook stands in a field awaiting repairs after it made an emergency landing near the eastern German town of Delitzsch on Monday.

Stranded helo draws gawkers

By Marcus Kloeckner and Martin Egnash
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. Army helicopter that remains stuck in a field in eastern Germany after a forced landing has become a local tourist attraction, regularly drawing more than 100 onlookers at times.

The Chinook helicopter is awaiting repairs after it landed near Delitzsch, in the state of Saxony, about 12:30 p.m. Monday because of technical problems, German and U.S. officials said.

The helicopter was flying from Katterbach, in Bavaria, to participate in the large-scale Saber Strike 18 exercise in Poland when it began to overheat, leading soldiers to land as a precaution, Army officials said.

"The oil temperature got hotter and hotter and did not cool down," said pilot Cpt. Tucker Sulzberger, according to the German news site Tag24. "For this case, there is an emergency protocol that tells us to land as fast as possible."

The helicopter crew wasn't injured during the landing and is staying in a nearby hotel as the Chinook awaits repairs.

U.S. soldiers are working with German military police to provide 24-hour security, Army spokesman Michael Huth said.

The Army expects replacement parts to arrive Thursday. It will take about 24 hours to fix the Chinook and fly it back to Bavaria, officials said.

The Army is investigating the cause of the overheating.

Delitzsch police chief Klaus-Dieter Kablitz said that "the moment the helicopter went down, people started to come to the field to check it out."

"There are almost always between 100-150 people there (on the field)," Kablitz said. "For such a small town, this is an attraction."

Military air traffic controllers notified police that the helicopter went off the radar on Monday, Kablitz said.

"We immediately were alarmed and started to search for the helicopter," Kablitz said. They prepared for the worst, but "luckily we soon got informed that the helicopter safely landed on a field," he said.

Kablitz said that a second helicopter landed to pick up a Humvee and equipment that the first helicopter had carried.

"Considering how huge this type of helicopter is, it is amazing that it can fly at all," Kablitz said of the Chinook, a tandem-rotor, heavy-lift aircraft. The helicopter is a global mainstay for the Army in a variety of transport missions.

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Group warns troops of financial threats

By Drew Brooks
The Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer

On any given day, thousands of U.S. troops are deployed around the world, including to dangerous battlefields in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan.

But servicemembers at their home station also face threats, according to a new report from the American Association for Justice.

The AAJ's "Fighting for Those Who Fight For Us: Protecting the Rights of Servicemembers and Veterans" highlights the medical and financial threats facing troops in their own backyards.

From predatory lenders, rent-to-owns stores, pawn shops and car dealerships surrounding most military installations to large multinational corporations that have been known to milk troops and veterans for profits, the report paints a landscape full of traps and pitfalls that must be navigated.

Laws — such as the Military Lending Act, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act — have been passed to help troops and their families. But AAJ said companies are constantly finding new ways to skirt those laws to foreclose on homes or fire deployed troops.

"Even as they drape themselves in the American flag, large corporations have fired active-duty servicemembers, foreclosed on their family homes, repossessed their cars, scammed their pensions and even profited from their life insurance policies when they have been killed," the report reads.

Corporations repeatedly ignore or violate such protections, it continues "counting on the fact that few servicemembers will ever be able to hold them accountable."

"All Americans deserve a fair path to justice when they have been illegally fired, foreclosed upon, or scammed by unscrupulous actors," said Kathleen Nastri, president of AAJ. "Unfortunately, servicemembers and veterans who have risked their lives to defend our Constitution are being denied the very rights they've fought to protect. The treatment highlighted in this report shows how our country has failed to ensure access to justice for our servicemembers. We as a nation have to do better."

The report highlights cases involving several well-known corporations, including those that purport to be patriotic. It details financial dangers facing a predominately young and financially inexperienced population, medical threats in the form of over prescription and misuse of opioids and toxic exposure to asbestos, burn pits and Agent Orange.

According to the AAJ, civil courts are the last line of defense for "the brave men and women who serve as our country's first line of defense."

The organization urged Congress to work to better protect servicemembers and veterans.

Navy fails to keep close track of time spent at sea

Associated Press

BREMERTON, Wash. — The U.S. Navy isn't keeping close track of how many days servicemembers assigned to ships and boats are spending at sea, according to records recently obtained by the Kitsap Sun.

For the past five years, a number of Naval Base Kitsap-based submarines have either under-reported or failed to report the number of days assigned personnel have spent at sea, the Kitsap Sun reported last week.

The newspaper in April requested the past five years of personnel data from Navy Personnel Command for all of the ships and boats based in Navy Region Northwest, including Bangor's submarines, Bremerton's aircraft carriers and Everett's destroyers.

Analysis of the data, which is current up to April 30, 2018, revealed the number of reported events for crews assigned to Bangor's submarines did not accurately reflect the number of days those units were deployed within the past five years.

The submarine command's incomplete data reporting isn't an isolated problem. It appears to be a widespread issue across the Department of Defense, according to a Government Accountability Office report published in April. An estimated 145,000 service members across all branches of the service are missing records for deployments between fiscal years 2014 to 2016, according to the report.

The report found unclear policies and a lack of a reporting enforcement system have resulted in the collection of unreliable data department-wide, which in turn inhibits the Department of Defense's ability to effectively monitor personnel tempo and determine how the current high pace of military operations is affecting the service members.

All commands and units are required to track the number of days personnel spend at sea, without exception, according to Department of the Navy and Department of Defense policies, as required by Congress.

However, no enforcement mechanism appears to exist to compel commands to report their data to comply with the requirement.

While all submarine commands are responsible for submitting their unit's data, limited network access while at sea can result in delayed reporting because the data is filed via a web-based application, Submarine Group Nine spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Michael Smith said.

"Nonetheless, we're looking at local policies to verify submission and ensure required (personnel tempo) reporting data is timely and accurate," Smith said.

Submarine Group Nine oversees all ballistic missile and guided missile submarines in the Pacific Northwest. It serves as the home port for a total of 10 Ohio-class submarines in the U.S. Navy fleet.

Despite the delay and gaps in reported data for the command's submarines, Navy Personnel Command has not contacted Submarine Group Nine for updated reports, Smith said.

Mattis: Trade dispute won't damage security ties

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said he does not expect the dispute with European allies over U.S. import tariffs to damage military and security relations.

Mattis addressed the issue in remarks to reporters traveling with him Wednesday to Brussels, where he will attend meetings of NATO defense ministers.

He said it is too early to call the tariffs dispute a trade war.

The Europeans, as well as Canada, have sharply criticized new U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum and have threatened retaliation against some U.S. products.

Man gets 5 years for lying on military application

Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — A Virginia man who told an FBI undercover employee he wanted to commit jihad has been sentenced to five years in prison for passport fraud and making false statements in his application to join the U.S. military.

A U.S. attorney's office news release said Shivam Patel, 28, of Williamsburg, was sentenced Monday.

The Virginian-Pilot reported that Patel, who was raised Hindu before converting to Islam, left his job teaching English in China to fly to Jordan, where he talked about joining Islamic State. Prosecutors say Jordan moved to deport him.

Patel didn't disclose his overseas trips in his application.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Afghanistan OKs offer of help from UAE troops

By Chad Garland
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan officials have approved the United Arab Emirates' offer to contribute troops to NATO's Resolute Support mission to advise and train Afghanistan's security forces, a move that could bring an Islamic ally into the fight against extremism.

On Tuesday, the Afghan national security council approved the UAE's offer in a meeting chaired by President Ashraf Ghani, the Presidential Palace said in a statement. The palace gave few details about the proposed contribution, but Afghan media said it would include special operations troops.

NATO Resolute Support officials in Kabul could not immediately provide further details, but said officials in Brussels were working on a response. Many of the coalition's leaders are in Brussels for a conference of NATO's defense ministers this week, where they will discuss funding for Afghanistan's security forces beyond 2020.

It was at a November meeting of the defense ministers that the UAE, along with its Persian Gulf neighbor Qatar, offered their contributions.

The offers come as tensions are high between UAE and Qatar. Some nations in the region, including the Emirates, have cut diplomatic ties with Qatar, accusing it of supporting terrorism.

So far, Afghan officials have only discussed and approved the UAE offer, said Shah Hussain Murtazavi, Ghani's deputy spokesman. He declined to comment on Qatar's proposal.

The fact that the two potential new members of NATO's Afghanistan mission are Islamic states could help undermine the Taliban's claim to fight in the name of Islam, said Ghafoor Ahmad Jawed, a political analyst in Afghanistan.

"It is so important for us to include Islamic countries against the Taliban," he said. "It is the responsibility of all Islamic countries to stop the use of the name of Islam for terrorism."

The new partners could also help persuade Pakistan to end its support of the insurgency, he said.

Scott Kuhn/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Vehicles belonging to the 33rd Combat Group from the United Arab Emirates take part in an exercise at the Al Hamra Training Center in September. Afghanistan announced on Tuesday that it had approved a UAE offer to provide troops to NATO's Resolute Support mission.

Just last week, Gen. John Nicholson, the top U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan, highlighted the new offers in a video conference with Pentagon reporters, again offering few details.

"This is not just an American mission," he said. "There are 39 nations here. In fact, we have two more that have recently offered to join, UAE and Qatar."

Diplomatic pressure on the Taliban's outside backing is a key part of the Trump administration's South Asia strategy, which aims to bring the militants to the peace table.

That strategy has been a "game changer," Nicholson said last week.

Along with a formal peace offer by Ghani, it's prompted an increase in diplomatic activity, "intensified dialogue" among the parties involved in the peace process and brought a decline in insurgent violence, he said.

The Taliban, however, rejected Nicholson's claims that some insurgent leaders had been in secret talks with Afghan officials and said the group would not negotiate peace with Kabul while foreign troops remained in the country.

Though the UAE was one of three countries that recognized the Taliban regime, they had for many years contributed more than two dozen troops to the earlier NATO mission. That mission lasted from late 2001 until the end of 2014, when most foreign combat troops were withdrawn.

More recently, Emiratis have been victims of insurgent violence, as in January 2017, when a bomb blast in Kandahar province fatally wounded the Emirati ambassador and killed several Emirati humanitarian aid workers.

For years, Qatar has let the alliance use its Al Udeid Air Base, but the country is home to insurgent leaders and was selected by Taliban hard-liners as a neutral country in which to hold talks with Western officials beginning in 2010.

After the group set up a political office in Doha for peace negotiations in 2013, Qatari intermediaries helped them negotiate with the U.S. for the release of five prisoners being held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in exchange for Bowe Bergdahl, then an Army sergeant.

There are about 14,000 U.S. and 7,500 coalition troops in Afghanistan helping to build up the country's security forces, which number some 315,000 army and police troops.

A few thousand of the U.S. troops don't fall under the NATO mission but are part of a related anti-terrorism operation that helps Afghan forces battling the Islamic State group and other militants.

U.S. and Afghan estimates put Taliban strength from 25,000 to 60,000.

The group has expanded its territorial control in recent years into nearly one-sixth of the country's 407 districts — more than at any point since 2001. It contests nearly one-third of the rest.

At a press briefing Wednesday in Brussels, Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said NATO and its partners were stepping up both their forces and funding, with about 3,000 more advisers added to the mission.

"We must continue to assist (the Afghan forces), to support President Ghani's bold initiative for peace and to encourage continued reforms to fight corruption and uphold human rights," he said.

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DOD: Civilian toll unknown in fight against ISIS

By Paul Sonne
The Washington Post

The Pentagon said Tuesday that the U.S. military will never know the exact number of civilians it has killed in the fight against Islamic State, an admission that comes as the human rights group Amnesty International accuses the United States and its allies of having recklessly killed thousands of civilians in the battle to retake the Syrian city of Raqqa.

U.S. Army Col. Thomas Veale, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition fighting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, said that despite the U.S. military's best efforts to assess civilian casualties, no one will ever know exactly how many civilians U.S. strikes have killed since the fight began in 2014.

"As far as how do we know how many civilians were killed, I am just being honest, no one will ever know," Veale said in a briefing at the Pentagon by video link from Baghdad. "Anyone who claims they will know is lying, and there's no possible way."

Veale described civilian deaths as a result of U.S. and allied airstrikes as "extremely unfortunate" and "a terrible, awful part of this war" against ISIS. He said the determinations are based on the best evidence the military possesses.

The comments come as the U.S. military faces fresh criticism over airstrikes killing civilians in a war now in its fourth year.

Amnesty International released a report that accused the U.S. military of causing widespread civilian deaths over the four-month campaign to retake control of the Islamic State stronghold of Raqqa, even though military leaders presented the operation as the product of precise and careful targeting.

Speaking at the Pentagon briefing Tuesday, Veale said the Amnesty report underscored the human tragedy of a war that was brought on by "an evil criminal organization that at its peak subjected 7.7 million Iraqis and Syrians to its brutal rule." He said that thanks to the U.S.-led coalition, those people and their homes had been liberated.

Veale said the report's authors failed to check the public record, get facts straight or consult the military on their conclusions. He said his biggest objection was the prima facie argument that the United States had violated international law.

"They are literally judging us guilty until proven innocent," Veale said. "That's a bold rhetorical move by an organization that fails to check the public record or consult the accused."

Since intervening to fight ISIS in Iraq and Syria in 2014, the U.S. military has opted to work primarily through proxy forces on the ground. The approach has helped minimize the number of American troops killed during the fight, but it has also required a particularly heavy reliance on air power to aid the proxy forces on the ground. Many of those strikes have resulted in civilian casualties.

The U.S. military has been tracking civilian casualties in its fight against ISIS. The Pentagon recently said the U.S. military killed approximately 500 civilians in 2017 in all its military operations, including those in Iraq and Syria. The United States and its partners conducted more than 10,000 airstrikes against ISIS in that year alone.

Human rights groups and investigative reports, however, have repeatedly raised questions about the accuracy of the numbers released by the Pentagon, with some arguing that it is nearly impossible for so few civilians to be dying given the number and scope of the airstrikes the military is reporting.

Humvees: US destroys equipment if it cannot be recaptured from Taliban

FROM FRONT PAGE

"In the event this type of military equipment is stolen, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan and the Afghan national defense and security forces work quickly to reacquire the equipment or eliminate it from the battlefield altogether so as not to allow the enemy an advantage," Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell, a military spokesman, said in a statement.

If the equipment can't be recaptured with a ground attack it is destroyed from the air. The 40 Humvees were destroyed in U.S. airstrikes since January 2015, shortly after U.S. combat forces left Afghanistan and Afghan government troops took the lead in fighting the Taliban and other insurgent groups.

The captured American equipment not only gives militants increased firepower or protection, but is often used by Taliban militants in attempts to slip past guards. Militants in a captured Humvee last month launched an attack on Afghanistan's Interior Ministry. In that attack an Afghan police officer was killed but the assault was rebuffed before a bomb-laden vehicle could get inside the compound.

"It obviously concerns us that terrorists have captured vehicles and captured uniforms, but … I point to the alertness and the quick reaction by the Afghan security forces on the scene," Army Gen. John Nicholson said of the May 30 attack.

But even quick insurgent raids can capture expensive equipment. Staging raids to steal arms and equipment is "a pretty standard guerrilla tactic," said Seth Jones, an analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a think tank in Washington, D.C.

Since 2002, the United States has poured nearly $80 billion into building Afghanistan's security forces, which consist of about 300,000 soldiers and police.

Afghanistan's ability to fund its own military is "severely limited" and its government depends heavily on the U.S. to finance its armed forces, according to John Sopko, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

Since the departure of American combat troops in 2014, Afghanistan's military has suffered high casualties and struggled to maintain control over some remote towns and villages.

The Humvees struck by American aircraft may only represent a fraction of the equipment now in Taliban hands.

Accounting for the equipment that the U.S. has provided to Afghanistan's military remains a challenge. It's possible that some of the equipment may have been diverted to the Taliban by corruption in Afghanistan's military.

NATION

No clear 'wave' seen in primaries

By Steve Peoples and Michael R. Blood
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Republicans and Democrats alike appear to have escaped calamity in a crucial day of coast-to-coast primary battles as they fight to shape the political battlefield for the fall. There was an especially big sigh of relief from the GOP on Wednesday after the party avoided being entirely shut out of California's November election of a new governor.

Republicans had feared that Democrats would win both of the governor's spots in California's unique top-two primary system. With no one to support at the top of the state ticket, the concern was that GOP voters would sit the election out, giving Democrats a big advantage in House races across the state that could help swing control of Congress.

There was less Democratic talk of a November "blue wave" on Wednesday. And President Donald Trump, crediting "the Trump impact," said there might be "a big Red Wave" instead. But that seemed to be more of a presidential boast than a realistic analysis of the California results.

While some Golden State contests remained too close to call Wednesday, Republicans managed to get business executive John Cox on the November ballot for governor. Lt. Gov. Gavin Newson, a Democrat, easily captured the top spot to succeed term-limited Jerry Brown in the deeply Democratic state's top office. There will be no Republican candidate in the other big statewide race, for U.S. Senate.

Democrats were fighting to avoid their own calamity in California's many competitive House districts and appeared to have largely succeeded. The concern in their case was that so many candidates would divide the Democratic vote and let Republicans take the top two spots in some House races. After more votes were counted on Wednesday, the Democrats appeared to have avoided being shut out in nearly all of the state's battleground contests.

Nationwide, Tuesday night was a big night for women, as female candidates for governor advanced, including Democrat Michelle Lujan Grisham in New Mexico and Republican Kristi Noem in South Dakota. Female Republican governors in Alabama and Iowa will try for their first full terms after succeeding men who resigned.

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein also fared well and will face only a fellow Democrat in November.

California's handful of competitive House races — more than a half-dozen Republican-held seats may be in play — has made it hotly contested territory in the fight over control of the House, drawing big money and the spotlight on the biggest primary night of midterms. Democrats need to pick up 23 seats nationwide to retake the House.

Much of Tuesday's drama focused on women, including former federal prosecutor and Navy pilot Mikie Sherrill, who bested a field of Democratic rivals to replace retiring New Jersey Republican Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen. The favorite of Washington Democrats will take on GOP Assemblyman Jay Webber in one of several New Jersey races Democrats view as possible pickups.

In Alabama, four-term Republican Rep. Martha Roby was forced into a runoff election next month after failing to win 50 percent of her party's vote. She will face former Democratic Rep. Bobby Bright in Alabama's conservative 2nd District — where Trump loyalty has been a central issue.

Roby was the first member of Congress to withdraw her endorsement of the Republican president in 2016 after he was caught on video bragging about grabbing women's genitals.

In New Mexico, Grisham won her party's nomination in the race to succeed outgoing Republican Gov. Susana Martinez. If Grisham wins, she'll be the state's second Latino state executive.

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey fended off three GOP challengers, while Noem became the first female nominee for governor in her state.

In Iowa, Democratic state Rep. Abby Finkenauer, 28, was trying to become the youngest woman to serve in Congress.

And in New Mexico, former state Democratic Party Chairwoman Debra Haaland, a tribal member of Laguna Pueblo, won her primary and could become the first Native American woman in Congress if she wins this fall.

Mississippi Republican Sen. Roger Wicker won his primary contest, as did New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat who faced federal bribery charges last year.

Republican businessman Bob Hugin claimed the Republican nomination to face Menendez this fall.

Jeff Gritchen, The Orange County (Calif.) Register/AP

Carolyn Peisaner, center, joins other supporters of Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif., as they sing "God Bless America" with the congressman Tuesday at his campaign headquarters in Costa Mesa, Calif. Rohrabacher will face Democratic businessman Harley Rouda in the November election.

Calif. county recalls judge who was seen as lenient on swimmer in sex assault

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The beginning of the end for the first California judge recalled since 1932 began almost exactly two years ago, when Santa Clara County Judge Aaron Persky sentenced a former Stanford swimmer convicted of sexual assault to six months in jail instead of a long prison term.

A statement from the victim captured the national spotlight, recounting the ordeal of the investigation and trial, where she was cross-examined about her drinking habits and sexual experience.

"You took away my worth, my privacy, my energy, my time, my intimacy, my confidence, my own voice, until today," she said in a statement read in court before the June 2016 sentencing of Brock Turner.

Within days, a politically connected Stanford law professor who was friends with the victim launched a campaign to recall the judge.

On Tuesday, Santa Clara County voters agreed and recalled the judge from office after his nearly 15-year career on the bench.

"The broader message of this victory is that violence against women is now a voting issue," said Michele Dauber, an outspoken women's rights campus activist who launched the recall effort. She said the local vote will resonate nationally and underscores the staying power of the #MeToo movement.

Persky, who declined to comment Tuesday, said repeatedly that he couldn't discuss the case that spurred the recall because Turner has appealed his conviction. But in a lengthy interview with The Associated Press last month, he said he didn't regret the decision and was taken aback by the reaction.

"I expected some negative reaction," Persky said. "But not this."

Persky said he was adopting the probation department's recommendation to spare Turner prison for several reasons, including Turner's age, clean criminal record and the fact that both Turner and the victim were intoxicated.

"The problem with this recall is it will pressure judges to follow the rule of public opinion as opposed to the rule of law," he said.

The California Commission on Judicial Performance ruled that he handled the case legally. Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen didn't appeal the sentence.

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NATION

MICHAEL S. DARNELL/Stars and Stripes

Singers from the American University Gospel and Eastern High School choirs perform Wednesday during a ceremony held at Arlington National Cemetery to honor the late Robert F. Kennedy on the 50th anniversary of his death.

Event marks 50th anniversary of Robert F. Kennedy's death

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — A swell of visitors, most far too young to remember Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, came to Arlington National Cemetery on Wednesday to pay their respects on the 50th anniversary of his assassination.

Kennedy was shot June 5, 1968, soon after a speech marking his victory in the California Democratic primary for president, and died the next day. He was 42.

For such a noted thread in the tapestry of American politics, it was an understated ceremony. Country music star Kenny Chesney gave a quiet performance of "This Land is Your Land," and 19 speakers ranged from former President Bill Clinton to Kennedy's daughter and grandson.

Noted civil rights activist and longtime friend of the Kennedy family Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., also spoke, quoting from RFK's speech about the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

Some recited passages from Kennedy's other speeches, touching on matters that continue to be relevant today: racial equality, American unity, liberty. Several thousand people filled the outdoor auditorium at the cemetery, where Kennedy is buried near his brothers, John and Ted.

Kennedy's daughter Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and grandson, Rep. Joe Kennedy III, D-Mass., peppered their speeches with personal anecdotes from RFK's life.

Joe Kennedy III gave perhaps the most moving tribute to his grandfather. While he too spoke about the impact Kennedy had on American politics, he humanized a man who has become, for many, just another face in a history book.

"Today we also remember a father who delighted in the laughter of his children, long walks with his dogs, football with his family, the smile of his wife," Kennedy's grandson said. "He wasn't radical or revolutionary. He was human."

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Obama-era move aided Iran money conversion

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration secretly sought to give Iran access — albeit briefly — to the U.S. financial system by sidestepping sanctions kept in place after the 2015 nuclear deal, despite repeatedly telling Congress and the public it had no plans to do so.

An investigation by Senate Republicans released Wednesday sheds light on the delicate balance the Obama administration sought to strike after the deal as it worked to ensure Iran received its promised benefits without playing into the hands of the deal's opponents. Amid a tense political climate, Iran hawks in the U.S., Israel and elsewhere argued that the United States was giving far too much to Tehran and that the windfall would be used to fund extremism and other troubling Iranian activity.

The report by the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations revealed that under President Barack Obama, the Treasury Department issued a license in February 2016, never previously disclosed, that would have allowed Iran to convert $5.7 billion it held at a bank in Oman from Omani rials into euros by exchanging them first into U.S. dollars. If the Omani bank had allowed the exchange without such a license, it would have violated sanctions that bar Iran from transactions that touch the U.S. financial system.

The effort was unsuccessful because American banks — themselves afraid of running afoul of U.S. sanctions — declined to participate. The Obama administration approached two U.S. banks to facilitate the conversion, the report said, but both refused, citing the reputational risk of doing business with or for Iran.

"The Obama administration misled the American people and Congress because they were desperate to get a deal with Iran," said Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, the subcommittee's chairman.

Issuing the license was not illegal. Still, it went above and beyond what the Obama administration was required to do under the terms of the nuclear agreement. Under that deal, the U.S. and world powers gave Iran billions of dollars in sanctions relief in exchange for curbing its nuclear program.

Last month, President Donald Trump declared the U.S. was pulling out of what he described as a "disastrous deal."

The license issued to Bank Muscat stood in stark contrast to repeated public statements from the Obama White House, the Treasury and the State Department, all of which denied that the administration was contemplating allowing Iran access to the U.S. financial system.

Shortly after the nuclear deal was sealed in July 2015, then-Treasury Secretary Jack Lew testified that even with the sanctions relief, Iran "will continue to be denied access to the world's largest financial and commercial market."

Yet almost immediately after the sanctions relief took effect in January 2016, Iran began to complain that it wasn't reaping the benefits it had envisioned. Iran argued that other sanctions — such as those linked to human rights, terrorism and missile development — were scaring off potential investors and banks who feared any business with Iran would lead to punishment. The global financial system is heavily intertwined with U.S. banks, making it nearly impossible to conduct many international transactions without touching New York in one way or another.

Former Obama administration officials declined to comment for the record.

However, they said the decision to grant the license had been made in line with the spirt of the deal, which included allowing Iran to regain access to foreign reserves that had been off-limits because of the sanctions. They said public comments made by the Obama administration at the time were intended to dispel incorrect reports about nonexistent proposals that would have gone much farther by letting Iran actually buy or sell things in dollars.

The former officials spoke on condition of anonymity because many are still involved in national security issues.

As the Obama administration pondered how to address Iran's complaints in 2016, media reports revealed that the U.S. was considering additional sanctions relief, including issuing licenses that would allow Iran limited transactions in dollars. Democratic and Republican lawmakers argued against it. They warned that unless Tehran was willing to give up more, the U.S. shouldn't give Iran anything more than it already had.

Emails: Pruitt told staffer to handle another personal chore

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt had an agency staffer reach out to Chick-fil-A on government email about a "potential business opportunity," emails show. The opportunity, according to one former EPA senior staff member, was exploring the possibility of a Chick-fil-A franchise for Pruitt's wife.

It was the second disclosure in as many days of Pruitt asking agency staff to do personal tasks for him. Democratic lawmakers released a transcript Monday of an interview with a top Pruitt aide who said the EPA chief asked her to reach out to the Trump International Hotel about buying a used mattress.

Federal ethics rules bar government employees from using their positions for private gain and prohibit supervisors from directing their subordinates to carry out personal errands.

EPA mails obtained by the Sierra Club under the Freedom of Information Act show Sydney Hupp, then Pruitt's scheduler, reaching out to Chick-fil-A executive Dan Cathy on May 18, 2017, for a meeting at Pruitt's request, she wrote in the email.

"The administrator didn't mention a specific topic but I will touch base with him to see if there is one," Hupp said in one email.

She followed up the next day, writing, "The administrator would like to talk about a potential business opportunity."

Former EPA deputy chief of staff Kevin Chmielewski said in an interview Tuesday that Millan Hupp, also a top aide to Pruitt, told him the administrator was inquiring about the possibility of his wife acquiring a franchise with the chain. He said Pruitt, Millan Hupp and "the Oklahoma people" were doing what they could to find a job for Marlyn Pruitt in the Washington area.

Pruitt and his aides also put out feelers among government and private contacts about interior decorator work for Pruitt's wife, according to Chmielewski, who says he was fired from the agency after challenging some of Pruitt's spending.

Neither the EPA nor Chick-fil-A officials returned requests for comment.

Chick-fil-A representative Carrie Kurlander told The Washington Post, which first reported the story, that Pruitt had been interested in his wife becoming a franchise owner.

"Administrator Pruitt's wife started, but did not complete, the Chick-fil-A franchisee application," the Post quoted her as saying.

Pruitt's alleged use of his EPA position to help job-search for his family is improper because he put aides to work, and because "by using his staff he brought in the imprimatur of the agency, he invoked the authority of the agency," said Virginia Canter, ethics counsel with Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

Clinton: Not 'my finest hour'

WASHINGTON — Former President Bill Clinton is acknowledging that his combative response earlier this week to questions about Monica Lewinsky wasn't his "finest hour."

Still, Clinton says, "It was a very painful thing that happened 20 years ago," adding that he had to "live with the consequences every day since."

In an interview with NBC's "Today" released Monday, Clinton bristled at questions over whether he should have resigned 20 years ago because of his sexual relationship with the White House intern.

Clinton was asked Tuesday by the host of CBS' "Late Show," Stephen Colbert, if he realized why some people thought his response was "tone-deaf" in light of the MeToo movement.

The ex-president responded, "It wasn't my finest hour," adding, "I was mad at me — not for the first time."

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OPINION

About that Bee in Barr fans' bonnets …

By Kathleen Parker
Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON

Call me naive — I've been called worse — but it never occurred to me that Roseanne Barr's firing would be viewed by some as a political statement.

Alas, it seems I'm a mere babe in the thicket.

When I recently wrote about Barr's racist Twitter attack on Valerie Jarrett, I was commenting on why this particular event was so foul. However, because I didn't also address every other person who has been rude or profane, namely comedian Samantha Bee, or the alleged double standard in their treatment — Barr's show was canceled, Bee's was not — I'm somehow a liberal shill, along with various choice anatomical descriptors. So wrote a couple of dozen readers of websites, if not precisely my column.

Since you brought it up: First, it has always been deeply depressing to me that Barr has an audience at all. Please see previous column. Second, until a few days ago, Bee wasn't on my radar. For the record, what she said about Ivanka Trump, calling her a "feckless c---," was disgusting. What else?

I'm reminded that when playwright Eve Ensler came out with "The Vagina Monologues," one of the chapters — or episodic hysterias — concerned women's reclaiming of the C-word. In Ensler's play, which prompted me to pen a play in one word — "Ennui" — a woman spends an uncharitable amount of time saying and savoring the word with accompanying lingual histrionics.

The play, oft-performed on college campuses, apparently helped certain women liberate themselves from the word's traumatic effects when uttered by a male of the species. Women would own it, thenceforth, and could use it with impunity for their own unhinged purposes. Sorry, I meant to say, unchained.

Given said appropriation, might one conclude that Bee, being a woman, is within her monologist rights to use the term just so long as she's referring to another woman? Apparently, no. It seems that, to some people, it would only be OK if Bee's target were also a *liberal* woman. Picking on the daughter of a Republican president is tantamount to attacking the entire Republican cohort, while the C-word seems secondary to the partisan point.

Sheesh.

Bee is certainly liberal if you're an ultraconservative, but the show's executive producer describes those behind the program as "radical centrists." But even if Bee's a liberal, aren't conservatives also concerned that immigrant children are being separated from their parents upon entering the country illegally — the point of Bee's segment? Don't like the joke, don't watch. By all means condemn the language. But a tit-for-tat firing makes sense only if your world is defined by politics. Bee's show *is* often political and part of her shtick is saying outlandish, gross things to get laughs. In a sense, she was just doing her job, which is probably why she wasn't fired.

Also, she quickly apologized without making excuses, as Barr did.

Meanwhile, the fact that President Donald Trump likes Barr, who is a conspiracy theorist as well as a racist, is hardly reason to consider her a conservative victim or to believe that she was fired only because she attacked a liberal. She was fired because she ill-represents the values of her former network, ABC, even if its enunciation standards were late in coming.

Trump's outrage about Bee's remarks, appropriate to any father, is surely one of his shinier moments. But he's hardly an avatar of moral rectitude and decency. Pop quiz: Which president put the P-word into public circulation? Also, thanks to Trump, everybody in the world, save for a few Sentinelese in the Andaman Islands, knows the name "Stormy Daniels." Trump's own record regarding the respectful treatment of women is, moreover, a tad spotty.

Finally, Bee's remark doesn't rise to the level of what Barr said, which has nothing to do with my knee-jerk moderate politics. As for my choice in comedians, I prefer that they be funny. Most, regardless of persuasion, poke fun at the powers that be. It just so happens that the current majority lends itself to the genre.

Comparing Barr's fate to Bee's as strictly political fails on its face. One uttered an obscenity; the other a mean-spirited, threatening slur that has caused immeasurable suffering. By referring to Jarrett as she did, Barr employed the same simian imagery that was used to rationalize the enslaving, lynching and terrorizing of blacks.

The Ku Klux Klan and Jim Crow could not have hoped for better, or worse, than Barr's revealed mind — far more offensive than the C-word, which, remember, women now own.

Baker won in court, with no harm to free speech

By George F. Will
Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON

"Loose lips sink ships" was a World War II slogan warning Americans against inadvertently disclosing important secrets, such as troop ships' sailing schedules. On Monday, the Supreme Court showed that loose lips can sink cases.

In Colorado in 2012, a Christian baker declined the request of a same-sex couple to decorate a cake for a reception celebrating their marriage in Massachusetts. The baker said that compelling him to put his expressive activity of cake artistry in the service of an act his faith condemns — and that was not legal in Colorado — would violate his First Amendment right to free speech, which includes the freedom not to speak, and to the free exercise of religion (which also is his basis for refusing to make Halloween cakes).

Rather than find, as would not have been burdensome, bakers with no objections to their request, the couple abandoned what once was the live-and-let-live spirit of the gay rights movement. In the truculent spirit of this era, they sicced the Colorado Civil Rights Commission on the baker. It said he violated the state's law against sexual orientation discrimination.

On Monday, the court held 7-2 for the baker, *but only for him*. Writing for the court, Justice Anthony Kennedy (with Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch joining in the judgment) concluded that the Civil Rights Commission manifested animus regarding the baker's religious beliefs. For example, a notably obtuse member said that "despicable" rhetoric about freedom of religion had been used to justify slavery and the Holocaust.

The nation remains resolutely committed to the public accommodations section of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which Colorado law anticipated in an 1885 law: If you open your doors for business, you must serve all who enter. Furthermore, it is maddeningly problematic to begin carving out exemptions from obedience to laws of general applicability that are neutral regarding religion. Wedding planners, photographers, flower arrangers, even chauffeurs who have religious objections to same-sex weddings can claim, with varying degrees of plausibility, that their activities are "expressive" and therefore their varying degrees of "participation" in religious events implicate the two First Amendment provisions the baker invoked.

In this case, the court prudently avoided trying to promulgate a limiting principle that would distinguish essentially expressive conduct from that with merely negligible or incidental expressive elements. But because the principle remains unformulated, other cases will come to the court lacking the sort of convenient escape hatch that the court found in the commission's loose lips. Looking down the road, Kennedy on Monday warned that "there are no doubt innumerable goods and services that no one could argue implicate the First Amendment."

First Amendment protections of freedom of speech are now more comprehensively attacked than ever before. The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1790s (which were allowed to expire), the abuses of the post-World War I "Red Scare" and the McCarthyism of the early 1950s arose from temporary public fevers, and ended when the fevers broke. Today's attacks, emanating from authoritarian intellectuals, will not be as transitory as a mere political mood because they are theoretical. They argue that free speech is a chimera — speech often is a mere manifestation of an individual's retrograde socialization, aka "false consciousness," hence it is not morally serious and does not merit protection. Or they argue that free speech is only contingently important — it should be "balanced" against superior claims, such as community harmony or listeners' serenity.

Because attacks on freedom of speech are today ubiquitous and aggressive, its defenders understandably, but sometimes more reflexively than reflectively, support any claim that this freedom is importantly implicated, however tangentially, in this or that dispute. A danger in the cake case was that victory for the baker would make First Amendment law incoherent, even absurd. Expressive activities merit some constitutional protection, but not everything expressive is as important as speech, which America's foundational political document protects because speech communicates ideas for public persuasion.

Friends of the First Amendment should not be impatient for the court to embark on drawing ever-finer distinctions about which commercial transactions, by which kinds of believers, involving which kinds of ceremonies, implicate the Constitution's free speech and free exercise guarantees. Taking religious advice, the court on Monday acted on the principle that "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," which means: Cope with today's ample troubles and cope with tomorrow's when they arrive, as surely they will.

OPINION

Conservatives play wait and see on Trump effect

By Doyle McManus
Los Angeles Times

When Donald Trump won the presidency, his relationship with the rest of the Republican Party looked like a potentially shaky marriage. But the GOP is Trump's party now.

We're full swing into primary season for the midterms, and where are the Republican voices offering any alternative to Trumpism? Traditionalist conservatives have been shuffled off the stage.

Sen. Jeff Flake, of Arizona, decried Trump's "regular and casual undermining of our democratic norms and ideals." He's retiring. Sen. Bob Corker, of Tennessee, who called the White House "an adult day care center," is retiring too. And Sen. John McCain, of Arizona, who denounced Trump's "half-baked, spurious nationalism," is dying of cancer. Mitt Romney, who once called Trump a fraud, is running to be the next senator from Utah; now the harshest thing he'll say is that the president isn't "a role model for my grandkids."

The collapse of other Republicans' ability to push back against Trump is the most worrisome political development of the last year, say political scientists. That's right, the biggest long-term threat to the health of the nation, they say, is not tax cuts favoring the wealthy, not trade wars and not radical deregulation — but the hostile takeover of the GOP.

"The biggest change for the worst is the performance of the Republican Party," Harvard University's Steven Levitsky, coauthor of "How Democracies Die," told me recently. "At first, it seemed there was a faction in the Senate that would draw a line. But that's much weaker now." (Other institutions have done better, he noted. "The response of the courts has been surprisingly robust," he said.)

"It's striking how much Trump has captured the party," agreed Yascha Mounk, author of "The People vs. Democracy."

Case in point: Trump's recent crusade — deliberate, sustained and relentless — against special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian meddling in the 2016 election, during which the president has impugned his own attorney general, deputy attorney general and the FBI.

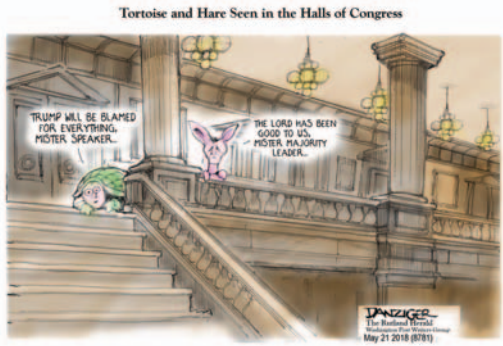
Last month, Trump accused the FBI of planting a spy in his 2016 campaign and said such an action "would be illegal, and a scandal to boot!" No Republican leader in Congress stood up to correct him. Instead, several agreed with Trump that the FBI's conduct should be formally investigated. Only a few backbenchers spoke up, including Rep. Trey Gowdy, of South Carolina — who, notably, also has decided to retire.

It's not unusual for party members to rally around their president, even if they privately question his decisions — which many of Trump's putative allies do. But when they worry that a headstrong president is heading in the wrong direction, congressional leaders normally try to rein him in. This time, though, Senate leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan — another early retiree! — appear to have given up trying.

"There is no Republican Party; there's a Trump party," former House Speaker John Boehner observed. "The Republican Party is kind of taking a nap somewhere."

During that nap, Trump's popularity has ticked upward over the last six months — largely, pollsters think, because the economy is on a roll. This week, the Real Clear Politics website's average of polls calculated Trump's job approval among all voters at 45 percent, up from 40 percent in January. (That's still worse than every other recent president at this point in their terms, with the exception of Jimmy Carter.)

Among Republican voters, however, Trump's support is stratospheric. The Gallup Poll reported last week that 87 percent of GOP voters approve of what he's doing. As a result, Republicans who want to survive their primaries won't say a word against the boss in public.



Trump also appears to be radicalizing Republican voters — shaping their views to follow his. The polling organization YouGov reported last month that 75 percent of Republican voters agree with Trump that the Mueller investigation is a "witch hunt," and 61 percent think the president is being framed. Those numbers have gone up as Trump has pressed his case against the FBI.

And that brings us to this year's midterm election, including Tuesday's primaries in California. Long term, the outcomes will determine more than which party holds the majority in the House or Senate. The vote will also hold a message for every Republican officeholder: Was Trump a boost or a burden?

If the party holds on to its House and Senate majorities, many of its officeholders and strategists will conclude that Trump has been right all along. The GOP will continue remolding itself in the image of Trump — populist, authoritarian, anti-immigrant.

Only if a "blue wave" of Democratic votes sweeps not just California, but also swing states, will the party open the question of whether Ohio Gov. John Kasich or someone else should run against Trump to be the GOP nominee in 2020.

These midterms will be an important signal to the GOP as it considers if it wants more Trump or less — and whether choosing a volatile populist as its nominee turns out to be a one-time anomaly or a pattern for the future.

"I'm not so worried about Donald Trump as a threat to American democracy, because he's not very competent," Mounk said. "I'm more worried about what would happen if at some point we were to elect a more competent version."

Doyle McManus is a contributing writer to Opinion.

Trump's Indo-Pacific strategy: 'Where's the beef?'

By Josh Rogin
The Washington Post

SINGAPORE

The Trump administration has rolled out its new Indo-Pacific strategy, meant to reshape America's regional approach and coalesce efforts to manage a rising China. But allies and adversaries alike are left wondering if the United States really has the will and resources to make it happen.

"Everybody is asking, where's the beef?" a senior Chinese People's Liberation Army officer said on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual meeting of defense officials, lawmakers, experts and journalists hosted by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. The event is a rare chance to hear directly from senior Chinese officials. They don't like the idea of President Donald Trump's new Indo-Pacific strategy, but they aren't taking it very seriously yet.

In China's view, its military expansion in the South China Sea and increased presence in the Indian Ocean are benign, so the United States and its allies shouldn't do anything to respond. On the economic side, the Chinese believe America and its partners have no capacity to compete with Beijing's multitrillion-dollar One Belt One Road Initiative, so they aren't much concerned with U.S. complaints about it.

Of course, neither the United States nor its Asian allies see Chinese military and economic aggression as benign. But there's no consensus about what to do about it. And there's no common understanding about how the Trump administration plans to back up its words with action.

At the conference, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis laid out their different views of what "Indo-Pacific" means. Both focused on building an open and free system that upholds the rights of countries and the rule of law and promotes prosperity. But Modi was clear in saying India is not interested in alliances aimed at containing China.

"India does not see the Indo-Pacific region as a strategy or as a club of limited members. Nor as a grouping that seeks to dominate," Modi said. "And by no means do we consider it as directed against any country. A geographical definition, as such, cannot be."

Mattis pointed to the Trump administration's National Security Strategy and National Defense Strategy, which call out China as a "revisionist power" and a "strategic competitor," respectively. He protested China's military aggression in the South China Sea and suggested its economic policy was predatory. He also said China's rise should be welcomed if Beijing is willing to play by the rules.

Mattis promised to implement Trump's Indo-Pacific strategy by reinvigorating American investment, working to strengthen the rule of law, increasing attention to the maritime space and deepening alliances. Many conference attendees from partner countries and the United States told me that Mattis' speech sounded reassuring, but there is still a huge gap between U.S. pledges and what they are seeing on the ground.

"While the region welcomes the aspirations of the Indo-Pacific strategy as a sign of broader strategy and regional engagement, the challenge right now is that it's just aspirational — a set of goals with no real strategy, policy enumeration or implantation plan, let alone resourcing and budget," said one congressional aide who attended the Dialogue.

The Trump team is threatening several regional allies with tariffs or sanctions. Trump's on-again, off-again, on-again diplomacy with North Korea has allies worried the American president isn't properly prepared to head into a delicate and hugely consequential negotiation.

Also, there hasn't been a real shift of U.S. military focus on the region. On his way to Singapore, Mattis stopped in Hawaii and presided over the renaming of Pacific Command, which will now be called U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. The actual responsibilities of the command didn't change, just the name. Trump frequently talks about withdrawing U.S. troops from the region. Mattis disinvited China from a multilateral naval exercise, but China's military takeover of large swaths of the South China Sea seems permanent.

After withdrawing from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Trump administration has done almost nothing to show the region it has a proactive trade policy. The Trump administration criticizes China's One Belt One Road initiative but hasn't presented developing countries in the region a viable alternative to Chinese funds. Without a real trade and economic strategy, America's overall strategic leadership isn't credible.

The Trump administration risks making the same mistake that the Obama administration made with its "rebalance" or "pivot" to Asia — raising expectations and then under-delivering. Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga., who attended the conference, told me that the United States needs a regional strategy that spans multiple administrations.

"When we're up against 'China Inc.' who thinks in terms of millennia, we cannot limit ourselves to thinking in fiscal quarters, or four- to eight-year administrations," he said. "We need a plan for the long haul to ensure that our nation maintains its leadership and strategic role in the Indo-Pacific region that covers defense, diplomacy and economics."

Trump administration officials say the details of its Asia strategy are coming soon. That doesn't reassure the countries of the region, which are already doubting America's credibility and reliability. The Chinese certainly aren't waiting for us to figure it out.

Josh Rogin is a columnist for the Global Opinions section of The Washington Post. He writes about foreign policy and national security.

WORLD

New evacuations spark panic near Guatemalan volcano

By Mark Stevenson and Sonia Perez D.
Associated Press

ESCUINTLA, Guatemala — Frightened people living near the Volcano of Fire fled with their children and few possessions when fresh flows of super-heated debris were announced, taking no chances after authorities gave them little time to evacuate before a deadly eruption over the weekend.

Traffic came to a standstill on choked roads Tuesday and those without vehicles walked, even in central Escuintla, which was not under an evacuation order. Businesses shuttered as owners fled, memories still fresh of Sunday's blast, which left at least 75 people dead and 192 missing and reduced a once verdant area to a moonscape of ash.

Mirna Priz, who sells tamales and chiles rellenos, wept as she sat on a rock at a crossroads, with a suitcase in front of her and her 11-year-old son, Allen, and their terrier mix Cara Sucia by her side.

"You feel powerless," she said. "I don't know where I'm going to go. To leave my things, everything I have."

But after seeing what happened Sunday, she was afraid to stay.

A column of smoke rose from the mountain Tuesday afternoon and hot volcanic material began descending its south side, prompting new evacuation orders for a half-dozen communities and the closure of a national highway. The country's seismology and vulcanology institute said the smoke billowing from the volcano's top could produce a "curtain" of ash that could reach 20,000 feet above sea level, posing a danger to air traffic.

Rescuers, police and journalists hurried to leave the area as a siren wailed and loudspeakers blared, "Evacuate!"

Among those fleeing was retiree Pantaleon Garcia, who was able to load his grandchildren into the back of a pickup with a jug of water and some food. They were heading to the homes of relatives in another town.

"You have to be prepared, for the children," he said.

When the panic set off by the new evacuations became clear, disaster officials called for calm.

In the community of Magnolia, which was under the new evacuation order, residents fled carrying bundles, bags of clothing and even small dogs in their arms.

Many walked along the side of the highway because vehicular traffic had stalled on the only road out.

By Tuesday the images of Sunday's destruction were familiar to everyone. What was once a collection of green canyons, hillsides and farms was reduced to grey devastation by fast-moving avalanches of super-heated muck that roared into the tightly knit villages on the mountain's flanks.

Two days after the eruption, the terrain was still too hot in many places for rescue crews to search for bodies or — increasingly unlikely with each passing day — survivors.

At a roadblock, Joel Gonzalez complained that police wouldn't let him through to see his family's house in the village of San Juan Alotenango, where his 76-year-old father lay buried in ash along with four other relatives.

"They say they are going to leave them buried there, and we are not going to know if it's really them," the 39-year-old farmer said.

"They are taking away our opportunity to say goodbye."

Photos by David Vincent/AP

WWII enthusiasts from France wearing 101st Airborne uniforms attend a ceremony near Omaha beach next to the Colleville American military cemetery in Colleville sur Mer, western France, on Wednesday.

Vets, families mark D-Day anniversary

Associated Press

France — Families of fallen soldiers and dwindling numbers of veterans of the D-Day invasion gathered on the Normandy shore Wednesday to mark 74 years since the massive military operation that helped change the course of World War II.

Powerful gusts of wind blew through a heavy mist as relatives and others paid respects at the American military cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, above the sandy expanse known as Omaha Beach.

Ceremonies have been held this week at memorial sites along the cliffs and sandy expanse where Allied forces landed in Nazi-occupied France.

Thousands of U.S., British, Canadian and French troops launched a combined naval, air and land assault as dawn was breaking on June 6, 1944. The invasion weakened the Nazis' hold on Western Europe after they suffered a punishing defeat in Stalingrad in the east.

David Chamberlain, second from right, of Atlanta, and family members visit the Colleville American military cemetery.

American tourists and Dutch military history enthusiasts were among those visiting the memorial sites Wednesday, mingling with families of victims of the Battle of Normandy buried in cemeteries sprinkled around the region.

This year's commemorations were relatively low-key, while bigger events are planned for the 75th anniversary next year.

UK, France and Germany ask US for exemptions from Iran sanctions

By Pan Pylas
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain, France and Germany have joined forces to urge the United States to exempt European companies from any sanctions the U.S. will slap on Iran after pulling out of an international nuclear agreement.

In a letter dated Monday to U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, ministers from the three European countries said they "strongly regret" last month's decision by President Donald Trump to withdraw from the Iran deal.

Trump, who argued that the 2015 deal was insufficiently tough on Iran, has said sanctions will be imposed on any company doing business with Tehran.

The three European countries were also signatories of the 2015 deal, which was meant to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

In their letter, made public Wednesday, the ministers said that "as close allies we expect that the extraterritorial effects of U.S. secondary sanctions will not be enforced on [European Union] entities and individuals, and the United States will thus respect our political decision and the good faith of economic operators within EU legal territory."

The ministers, who included British Foreign Minister Boris Johnson, French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire and his German counterpart, Olaf Scholz, said they want the U.S. to "grant exemptions" for EU companies that have been doing business with Iran since the deal came into force in 2016. They also said Iran should not be cut out of the SWIFT system for international money transfers.

Many companies from Europe and the U.S. have been steadily building up their investments in Iran in the past few years in the wake of the nuclear deal, particularly in the fields of pharmaceuticals, banking and oil.

In the letter, the ministers reiterated their view that the deal with Iran remains the "best means" to prevent the country from becoming a nuclear power.

They also warned that any Iranian withdrawal from the deal would "further unsettle a region where additional conflicts would be disastrous."

The publication of the letter comes a day after Iran said it was preparing for the resumption of uranium enrichment within the limits set by the 2015 agreement with the world powers. The modest steps appeared to be mainly aimed at signaling that Iran could resume its drive toward industrial-scale enrichment if the nuclear accord unravels.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian sought to downplay the implications of the move and said it was within the confines of the deal.

"It shows a sort of irritation and it is always dangerous to flirt with the red lines," he said on Europe-1 radio.

"We must keep a sense of proportion and stick to the agreement, and it must permanently be inspected by the IAEA. And today, the agreement is not broken and Iran respects totally its commitments."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Officials help recover lost wedding ring

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia officials helped save the day for a Pennsylvania couple who lost an heirloom wedding ring in a sewer grate.

Steve Brown was in the city with his wife, Erin, when the ring slipped off his finger and rolled into the grate. He said the ring was originally his grandfather's, and it was engraved with his grandparents' initials.

The couple tried using duct tape and clothes hangers to recover the ring Saturday with no success.

Steve Brown said a Philadelphia police officer made a call to the Pennsylvania utility company PECO. A worker opened the grate, and after nearly an hour of searching grabbed the ring.

Ice cream maker, brewery create beer

ELMSFORD — A brewing company in New York has teamed with Carvel to create "Fudgie the Whale" cake-themed beer.

The stout beer is brewed with the ice cream cake maker's signature chocolate and fudge and is 6 percent alcohol by volume. Captain Lawrence Brewing Co. said the beer pairs well with smoked foods and also chocolate desserts.

The beer is based on Carvel's Fudgie the Whale, a famed chocolate ice cream cake formed in the shape of a whale.

The beer will be available only at Captain Lawrence's beer hall in Elmsford.

Remnants of old Army fort are discovered

CHESTER — Anthropology students at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale discovered remnants of an army fort near the community of Chester that was once visited by the Lewis and Clark expedition.

In a news release, SIU Carbondale said the students were searching the area after concluding that Fort Kaskaskia, occupied by the U.S. Army in 1803, didn't stand atop the site of a fort the French occupied a half-century earlier as was long believed.

The discovery of an American uniform army button, early 1800s chimney brick and other objects led them to conclude that the fort stood about 300 meters away.

Cops: Woman hit eatery worker with burger

MIDDLETOWN — Police said a Connecticut woman was so angry by a mishandled Wendy's order that she allegedly hit the cashier with her burger.

The Connecticut Post reported Holly Bartolotta, 50, of New Britain, was charged with second-degree breach of peace after she allegedly caused a disturbance Friday at the Middletown fast food eatery.

Police said Bartolotta was upset because a staff member got her burger order wrong, so she swore and threw it at the employee. She also allegedly hit another customer.

Transient's foot set on fire in assault

SAN DIEGO — San Diego police are investigating an assault in which a transient set another transient's foot on fire.

Officer John Buttle said the 57-year-old victim got into an argument with another man Sunday afternoon.

The assailant threw the victim down, poured gas on his foot and set it ablaze.

The victim was taken to a hospital. His injuries were described as not life-threatening.

Public library system ends overdue fines

BALTIMORE — One of the nation's oldest public library systems has eliminated all fines on overdue books and other materials.

Enoch Pratt Free Library President Heidi Daniel told The Baltimore Sun that the move is a goodwill gesture to the community, erasing $186,000 in unpaid penalties for 26,000 people. It also reinstates membership for 13,000 borrowers whose cards have been blocked.

The system will continue charging borrowers to replace books never returned.

Mall brawl ends in arrest of 7 teens

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP — Police said one police officer was injured and seven teenagers arrested after a fight broke out in a New Jersey mall food court.

The Hamilton Township Police Department said the fight started as security officers were escorting individuals who were gathering in the food court out of the mall Saturday night. NJ.com reported the fight quickly escalated, with chairs and other debris getting thrown around the court.

Five teenage boys and two 18-year-olds were charged with disorderly conduct. One Hamilton Township police supervisor was assaulted during the altercation and quickly treated for his injury.

Hundreds of snakes, mice found in home

WEST BEND — Police investigating a sexual assault suspect discovered hundreds of snakes, mice and other small animals, including some that had died, in the foul-smelling basement of his southeastern Wisconsin home.

West Bend police said officers found 160 snakes and more than 250 mice as well as geckos and frogs in the house on May 31. The snakes ranged from 6 inches to 2 feet in length.

Many were in poor health. Several dead snakes and mice were also removed.

A 42-year-old man was arrested on preliminary charges of sexual assault, domestic abuse and battery. He was expected to be charged with additional criminal and civil code violations.

Company that saved Twinkies buys Necco

BOSTON — A company that once rescued the Twinkies brand is now taking over the maker of Necco Wafers.

The family business of billionaire Dean Metropoulos said it paid $17.3 million for the New England Confectionery Co., or Necco.

It's a surprise ending to a federal bankruptcy auction that initially left Necco to an Ohio company.

Spangler Candy Co. made the highest bid last week, but court records say it refused to close without a price reduction.

Instead, a deal closed on May 31 to sell Necco to a Connecticut-based branch of Metropoulos' company, which made the second-highest bid.

From wire reports

THE CENSUS

4K **The approximate number of gallons of milk spilled when a tanker crashed in New Hampshire.** State police said the tanker was traveling south Tuesday when the driver attempted to take the exit 20 off-ramp. The tanker rolled over and came to rest on its side. Police said the driver, Gregory Rogers, 64, was taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

John Rucosky, The (Johnstown, Pa.) Tribune-Democrat/AP

In the driver's seat

Pilot Tom Travis is shown in the cockpit of "Fifi," one of few flyable B-29 Superfortress World War II-era bombers in the world, at the John Murtha Johnstown-Cambria County Airport in Johnstown, Pa., on Monday. Several vintage WWII-era military aircraft from the Commemorative Air Force arrived with "Fifi" as part of an upcoming AirPower History Tour, including a P-51C Mustang, T-6 Texan and C-45 Expeditor. They will be on public display through Sunday.

FACES

A24/AP

Toni Collette, star of "Hereditary," says she isn't one for scary movies. "But [“Hereditary”] isn't simply a horror film. It's quite natural and emotionally raw and honest. For those qualities to blend in a film like this is really unusual, and I loved that."

Toni's terrifying turn

Collette getting Oscar buzz for role in scary movie 'Hereditary'

By Jen Yamato
Los Angeles Times

Toni Collette wasn't looking for darkness when "Hereditary" came calling. But when the darkness found her — in the form of the unnerving saga of the Grahams, an American family haunted by tragedy, mental illness, and perhaps something supernatural — the opportunity was too delicious to pass up.

"I wasn't interested in doing anything heavy, but I picked up the script and I couldn't stop reading it," the Australian native explained one May morning, slipping into the same busy eatery where, just over a year ago, writer-director Ari Aster convinced her to take the plunge and play a woman who begins to unlock cryptic family secrets after the death of her estranged mother.

The result, a claustrophobic chiller that distributor A24 releases June 8, features one of the most dynamic and memorable performances of Collette's career, in what critics are calling the scariest film in years.

Collette's Annie Graham is many things. A miniatures artist who fills her home studio with dioramas of her own life, she recreates memories as a means of reclaiming control. A mother of two with a strained relationship with her mom, she is overprotective of one of her children and coldly resentful of the other. And when the unthinkable strikes, she struggles to cope with a sense of powerlessness that gives way to dread as Aster spins his crumbling, nightmarish narrative.

The film has had audiences cowering in terror since it premiered in January at the Sundance Film Festival, jangling nerves with its potent visceral scares and leaving viewers rattled with the deeper psychological concerns baked into its DNA.

"There's this trend especially among American family tragedies, or family dramas, where people suffer a loss, and they go through a very tumultuous time together, but ultimately it brings them together and strengthens their bonds," explained Aster. "That's just not always what happens. Sometimes something happens and it takes one person down in a family, and it ends up taking the family down. I wanted to make a film about that."

Gabriel Byrne, Alex Wolff and newcomer Milly Shapiro co-star as the husband and children, respectively, whose lives are also upturned by revelations after the passing of the family matriarch.

But at the center of the film's quietly raging, rapidly crescendoing storm is Collette, delivering a powerhouse performance so riveting it could — and, some pundits say, should — earn her awards-season attention. (She has one Academy Award nomination, for "The Sixth Sense" in 2000.)

"It's pretty crunchy," she laughed, describing the complicated dynamic that emerges between Annie and her family, making for razor-tipped exchanges at the dinner table. "My character had such an unfortunate relationship with her own mother, much of her own ability to mother her own children and to be selfless is difficult for her. And I think part of being a present mother is learning how to be somewhat selfless. But there are so many idealized myths about what motherhood should be, and I love that both my character and the character of my mother have nothing to do with these myths."

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On paper, "Hereditary" might have seemed somewhat of a risk, even with A24 onboard early, being a strikingly ambitious piece of genre filmmaking and Aster's first feature after helming several provocative shorts at AFI.

Collette, too, admits she isn't one to watch scary movies. "But it isn't simply a horror film. It's quite natural and emotionally raw and honest. For those qualities to blend in a film like this is really unusual, and I loved that."

To prepare, Aster didn't screen horror classics for his actors but instead pointed them to searing family melodramas. Although Aster knew he had to nail the horror movie moments in "Hereditary," his intention was to cleave deeper than superficial jump scares. "The idea was to create a film that collapsed under the weight of its own emotions," he explained. "It's so packed with extreme feelings that the fabric of the film tears open, and the film itself goes crazy."

Collette had her hesitations. Through the years the actress realized that slipping into the skins and psyches of others was a job that sometimes came home with her. She has two children, now ages 7 and 10, with musician husband Dave Galafassi. Did she really want to volunteer to live inside a punishing nightmare about motherhood, trauma, compulsion and grief for the duration of filming?

"I kind of know immediately if I want to do something or not; it's very apparent. I was looking for reasons not to do it," laughed Collette, who had to be sure the emotional toll would be worth it. "So I thought I'd speak to (Aster) and see if he was a (jerk). But he's actually the kindest, most humble, dear human being. It was so evident that he knew exactly what he was doing."

The two clicked over the material. Thoughtful and soft-spoken with a rebellious inclination to defy convention — and unimpressed with most contemporary horror — Aster had already spent years preparing his vision for "Hereditary" and had a detailed shot-list drawn out, plotting out every frame and composition of the film.

Collette brings a relatable skepticism to Annie as she's drawn deeper toward buried truths, anchoring some of the film's most horrific moments in a narrative that doesn't depend, as many horror films do, on gory shocks. One of the most disturbing images is simply a close-up on her face, twisted in a drawn-out scream, her mouth agape in grief and shock.

Collette describes the scene as "stomach-turning," but delights in the thought that it might terrify audiences for years to come. She watched the film with an audience for the first time recently, which gave her a kick.

"It was really fun," she said, her eyes lighting up. "It really made me laugh. There is some levity to this movie, and I think there has to be because it is really very, very dark, and it doesn't let up; the sense of dread and suspense is always there."

Ariana Grande speaks about post-traumatic stress after bombing

From wire reports

Pop star Ariana Grande says she shares the post-traumatic stress syndrome that has affected many of the victim's families and the survivors of the terrorist bombing last year at her Manchester, England, concert.

"It's hard to talk about because so many people have suffered such severe, tremendous loss," the singer, 24, says in the new issue of the UK edition of Vogue, being published Friday. "But, yeah, it's a real thing," she continues. "I know those families and my fans, and everyone there experienced a tremendous amount of it as well. Time is the biggest thing. I feel like I shouldn't even be talking about my own experience — like I shouldn't even say anything. I don't think I'll ever know how to talk about it and not cry."

On May 22, 2017, at Grande's concert at the Manchester Arena, an explosion set off in the foyer by a suicide bomber killed 22 concertgoers and wounded at least 119.

"I think a lot of people have anxiety, especially right now," Grande says. "My anxiety has anxiety. I've always had anxiety. I've never really spoken about it because I thought everyone had it, but when I got home from the tour it was the most severe I think it's ever been."

Kate Spade remembered as vibrant and colorful

Bright. Vibrant. Colorful. And, most essentially, fun. The same words used so often to describe Kate Spade's enormously popular handbags — "It" bags that were both aspirational and affordable — were an apt description of the woman herself, say many in the fashion world. And that only contributed to the sense of shock and loss in the industry upon hearing the news Tuesday that Spade had apparently taken her own life at 55.

Spade had said it herself: "I hope that people remember me not just as a good businesswoman," she told Glamour magazine in 2002, "but as a great friend — and a heck of a lot of fun."

Spade was found hanged in the bedroom of her New Yok City apartment Tuesday morning in an apparent suicide, law enforcement officials said.

Other news

■ **Kathy Griffin** says she is eagerly awaiting the day when a gay person is elected president of the United States. Griffin, who was honored Tuesday night for her activism for LGBTQ issues and raising millions for HIV/AIDS services, says if it happens, she wants to be invited to a state dinner and get an overnight stay in the Lincoln bedroom at the White House.

■ A documentary quotes **David Cassidy** as saying he was still drinking in the last years of his life and he did not have dementia. People magazine reported Wednesday the former "Partridge Family" star called producers of an A&E documentary after he fell ill and told them he had liver disease. In the recorded conversation, Cassidy said there was no sign of dementia and it was "complete alcohol poisoning." Cassidy died of organ failure in November at age 67.

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GOP senators push for voice on tariffs

By Lisa Mascaro and Kevin Freking
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Key Senate Republicans are pushing long shot legislation that would require Congress to sign off on President Donald Trump's import tariffs, a rare attempt to stand up to the administration on a bedrock issue that once defined the GOP.

Congressional Republicans are mostly at odds with what they view as Trump's protectionist instincts on trade. Despite much hand-wringing, prospects for any bill to challenge him remain uncertain. Many Republicans are hesitant to confront Trump in a legislative showdown that could end badly for them. Doing so could court a veto and bruise their standing with Trump voters they need in mid-term elections.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., indicated he was not interested in spending too much time on the effort presented behind closed doors Tuesday by its chief proponent, Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., saying he preferred to focus on "getting bills passed."

The second-ranking Republican, Sen. John Cornyn, of Texas, said he hoped Republicans concerned about the tariffs could prevail on the president to reverse course.

"Not everything we do has to be legislative. Part of this job is persuasion," said Cornyn. He said lawmakers would "continue to make the case" with the president and his staff, which he noted is divided.

Trump took office promising to rip up trade deals and crack down on unfair trading practices. But that campaign slogan is at odds with Republicans' long-standing preference for free markets and open trade. The standoff is raising an uncomfortable question: If Republicans can't confront Trump on trade, can they challenge him on anything?

"For Republicans, this is who we are," said Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz. "If we believe our own rhetoric — on trade, tariffs and congressional prerogative — I hope it does come to a vote."

The idea being pursued by Corker, Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., and others who have been meeting privately — and with Democrats — would be narrowly crafted legislation requiring congressional approval of the tariffs Trump has imposed in the name of national security.

They're targeting Trump's reliance on the so-called 232 authority, named from Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which allowed the administration to impose tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on imported aluminum from Mexico, Canada and the European Union. The senators are also hoping to halt Trump's threat to slap tariffs on auto imports, including those from Japan.

Corker says there's "no way" automobiles and the other imports are a national security threat. It's not just Trump, the senators say, but past administrations that have leaned too heavily into the national security provision they now want to subject to congressional oversight.

"When you can just name anything as a national security issue then basically you undermine the whole trade agreement process," Corker said Tuesday.

Sen. Bob Corker

Corker's trying to hitch the legislation to a big annual defense bill making its way through the Senate that includes must-pass pay raises for the troops and other provisions.

Senate Republicans have warned administration officials that the tariffs could dampen the economic gains from the GOP tax cuts.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said he spoke to Corker about the legislation Tuesday. "I believe there is some Democratic support for it," Schumer said.

But Corker acknowledged the difficulty in passing legislation despite "tremendous concern" among lawmakers in both parties. "My guess is the administration may have some resistance," he said.

Time and again, Republicans in Congress have been reluctant to put guardrails around Trump as the administration has veered from GOP orthodoxy in policy or as the president interprets the law.

Flake is one of the few Republicans who repeatedly take on Trump, and he has separately offered a bill that would reverse the steel and aluminum tariffs, with support from Democratic Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, of North Dakota.

Facebook says user data shared with Chinese firms

Associated Press

MENLO PARK, Calif. — Facebook has acknowledged it shared user data with several Chinese handset manufacturers, including Huawei, a company flagged by U.S. intelligence officials as a national security threat, as it faces a fresh wave of allegations over its handling of private data.

Chinese firms Huawei, Lenovo, Oppo and TCL were among numerous handset makers that were given access to Facebook data in a "controlled" way approved by Facebook, the social media giant's vice president of mobile partnerships, Francisco Varela, said in a statement Tuesday.

The statement came after The New York Times published reports detailing how Facebook has given device makers deep access to the data of users' friends without their explicit consent. The data included work history, relationship status and likes of device users and their friends.

The Times reported the recipients of Facebook data included Chinese firms like Huawei that have been banned by some U.S. government agencies due to security concerns. Facebook told the newspaper it would end its data partnership with Huawei by the end of this week.

Huawei did not respond to requests for comment. It has long denied that its products pose security risks. For years, Huawei and its Shenzhen-based rival, ZTE, have been the subject of security misgivings in the U.S., but they have come under particular scrutiny since the start of the Trump administration.

The Pentagon in May banned the sale of Huawei and ZTE phones on military bases, four months after AT&T dropped a deal to sell a new Huawei smartphone.

MARKET WATCH

June 5, 2018

Dow Jones industrials	-13.71	24,799.98
Nasdaq composite	31.40	7,637.86
Standard & Poor's 500	1.93	2,748.80
Russell 2000	11.26	1,664.63

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 7)	$1.2077
Dollar buys (June 7)	€0.8280
British pound (June 7)	$1.38
Japanese yen (June 7)	107.00
South Korean won (June 7)	1,041.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3775
British pound	$1.3440
Canada (Dollar)	1.2868
China (Yuan)	6.3900
Denmark (Krone)	6.3135
Egypt (Pound)	17.8651
Euro	$1.1790/0.8482
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8474
Hungary (Forint)	270.27
Israel (Shekel)	3.5693
Japan (Yen)	110.00
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3020
Norway (Krone)	8.0684
Philippines (Peso)	52.44
Poland (Zloty)	3.62
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3316
South Korea (Won)	1,066.89
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9843
Thailand (Baht)	31.88
Turkey (Lira)	4.5715

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.69
3-month bill	1.91
30-year bond	3.08

WEATHER OUTLOOK

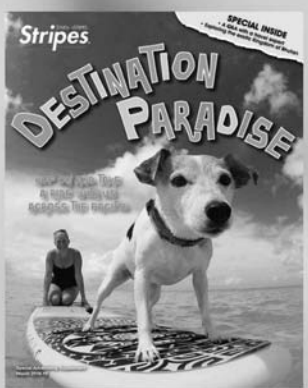
THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

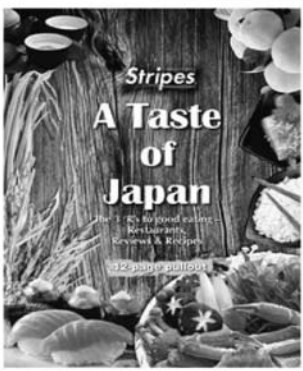
THURSDAY IN EUROPE

FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

You've never felt more like a local.





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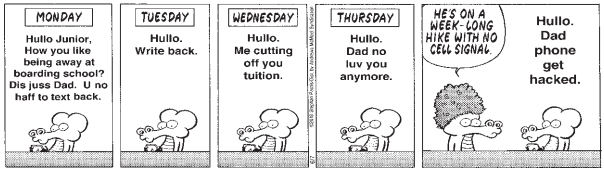
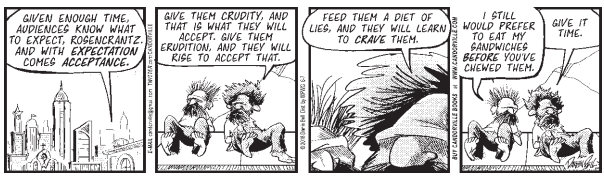
Pearls Before Swine

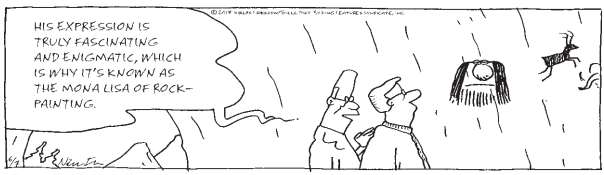


Non Sequitur

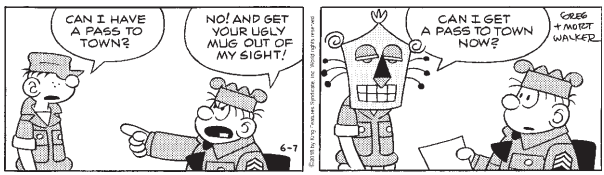
Candorville



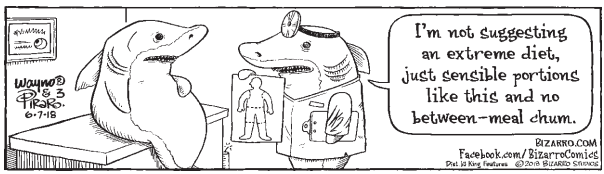
Carpe Diem



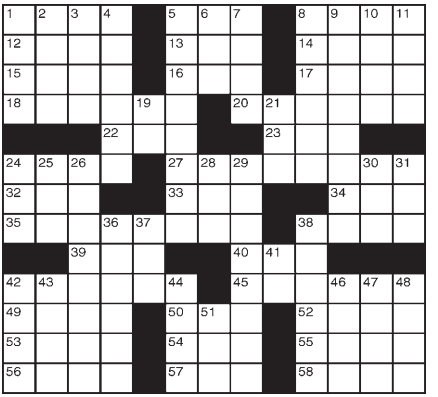
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Big bash
5 Coffee holder
8 Remain
12 — about (circa)
13 "A Chorus Line" song
14 Horse play?
15 Eve's man
16 Scooted
17 Singer Anita
18 Energetic person
20 2006 Winter Olympics city
22 Xmas time
23 Pint-sized
24 — Romeo
27 Necessitates
32 Kanga's kid
33 Gorilla
34 Mouths (Lat.)
35 Gold depository
38 Quarry
39 Before
40 Equal (Pref.)
42 Acropolis locale
45 Barrel maker
49 Timely query?
50 — Jima
52 Exemplar of thinness
53 Burden
54 Buddhist sect
55 Set down
56 Bath bubbles
57 UFO crew
58 New newts

DOWN

1 Incite
2 Opie's dad
3 Cash advance
4 Fleet
5 Casablanca denizen
6 Italian article
7 Bloke
8 Fern seeds
9 Exquisite
10 Arkin of "Argo"
11 Vacillate
19 Yours truly
21 Hogwarts messenger
24 Canine cry
25 Privy
26 It may get hot if you have a fever
28 Mil. address
29 Dictionaries
30 Tram load
31 Shaft of light
36 Pollster's finds
37 Understanding
38 Curly-haired dog
41 Therefore
42 Piercing tools
43 Grand
44 Dimension
46 Chanteuse Edith
47 Send forth
48 Cincinnati team
51 Drenched

Answer to Previous Puzzle

D	A	T	A		B	A	H		O	V	A	L
O	R	A	L		E	M	U		H	E	R	A
V	E	R	B	A	T	I	M		A	R	I	Z
E	S	S	A	Y			P	A	R	O	D	Y
			N	E	I	L		P	E	N		
N	A	V	Y		D	A	D	E		I	B	M
A	D	E		B	O	T	O	X		C	U	E
M	A	R		E	L	I	S		B	A	N	G
		A	T	E		N	E	A	R			
O	R	N	E	R	Y			R	O	L	E	S
M	O	D	E		V	E	R	M	O	U	T	H
I	M	A	M		E	V	A		D	A	T	E
T	E	S	S		S	E	W		S	U	E	D

6-7 CRYPTOQUIP

U G E U X D Q S W I U U W Y Y F C X A M S W L F C E T W O Q L U O F K W C U , I F W O P F C X T M F P W , L M F L E F K , " L G O F Y Y Q Q M D A W L U ! "

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR CABARET CHANTEUSE WHOSE MATERIAL IS TAME WHEN COMPARED TO MOST OTHERS: BETTE MILDER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals T

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EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Atlanta United FC	9	3	2	29	30	18
New York City FC	8	3	3	27	29	19
Columbus	7	3	5	26	21	13
New York	7	4	1	22	27	14
New England	6	4	4	22	24	20
Orlando City	6	6	1	19	22	23
Philadelphia	5	6	3	18	16	19
Chicago	5	7	2	17	20	25
Montreal	4	10	0	12	15	29
Toronto FC	3	7	2	11	17	23
D.C. United	2	5	3	9	14	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Sporting KC	8	2	4	28	28	14
FC Dallas	7	1	5	26	22	14
Real Salt Lake	7	6	1	22	19	26
Los Angeles FC	6	4	3	21	25	21
Portland	6	3	3	21	20	18
Vancouver	5	5	5	20	21	28
Houston	5	5	3	18	27	21
LA Galaxy	5	7	2	17	19	23
Minnesota United	5	8	1	16	17	26
San Jose	2	8	3	9	19	25
Seattle	2	7	2	8	7	14
Colorado	2	8	2	8	14	22

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday, June 1
Vancouver 2, Colorado 1

Saturday, June 2
LA Galaxy 1, Portland 1, tie
Atlanta United FC 3, Philadelphia 1
Montreal 1, Houston 0
New England 2, New York 1
New York City FC 3, Orlando City 0
Toronto FC 3, Columbus 3, tie
FC Dallas 2, Los Angeles FC 1
Chicago 2, San Jose 1
Real Salt Lake 2, Seattle 0

Sunday, June 3
Sporting Kansas City 4, Minnesota United 1

Friday's game
Toronto FC at Philadelphia

Saturday's games
Atlanta United FC at New York City FC
New York at Columbus
Orlando City at Vancouver
Montreal at FC Dallas
New England at Chicago
Colorado at Houston
D.C. United at Seattle
Los Angeles FC at San Jose
Real Salt Lake at LA Galaxy
Sporting Kansas City at Portland

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
North Carolina	9	0	3	30	24	11
Seattle	5	2	3	18	13	8
Orlando	4	3	4	16	16	13
Portland	4	4	3	15	15	16
Chicago	3	3	6	15	16	16
Utah	3	2	5	14	9	8
Houston	3	4	5	14	13	17
Washington	2	7	2	8	10	17
Sky Blue FC	0	8	1	1	6	16

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday, June 2
Utah 2, Sky Blue 1
Chicago 2, Washington 0

Sunday, June 3
North Carolina 1, Houston 1, tie
Orlando 0, Seattle 0, tie

Friday's game
Wasington at Sky Blue

Saturday, June 16
Portland at Chicago
Seattle at Washington
Utah at North Carolina
Sky Blue at Orlando

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	5	1	.833	—
Washington	5	3	.625	1
Atlanta	3	3	.500	2
Chicago	3	3	.500	2
New York	2	3	.400	2½
Indiana	0	6	.000	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	4	1	.800	—
Seattle	5	2	.714	—
Phoenix	5	3	.625	½
Dallas	3	3	.500	1½
Minnesota	2	5	.286	3
Las Vegas	1	5	.167	3½

Monday's games
No games scheduled

Tuesday's games
Phoenix 80, New York 74
Atlanta 82, Connecticut 77

Wednesday's games
No games scheduled

Thursday's games
Minnesota at Washington
Connecticut at New York
Seattle at Los Angeles

College baseball

Division I Super Regionals

Best-of-three; x-if necessary
Host school is home team for Game 1; visiting school is home team for Game 2; coin flip determines home team for Game 3

At Chapel Hill, N.C.
Friday, June 8: North Carolina (41-18) vs. Stetson (48-11)
Saturday, June 9: North Carolina vs. Stetson
x-Sunday, June 10: North Carolina vs. Stetson

At Nashville, Tenn.
Friday, June 8: Vanderbilt (34-25) vs. Mississippi State (35-26)
Saturday, June 9: Vanderbilt vs. Mississippi State
x-Sunday, June 10: Vanderbilt vs. Mississippi State

At Corvallis, Ore.
Friday, June 8: Oregon State (47-10-1) vs. Minnesota (44-13)
Saturday, June 9: Oregon State vs. Minnesota
x-Sunday, June 10: Oregon State vs. Minnesota

At Fullerton, Calif.
Friday, June 8: Cal State Fullerton (35-23) vs. Washington (33-23)
Saturday, June 9: Cal State Fullerton vs. Washington
x-Sunday, June 10: Cal State Fullerton vs. Washington

At Gainesville, Fla.
Saturday, June 9: Florida (45-18) vs. Auburn (42-21)
Sunday, June 10: Florida vs. Auburn
x-Monday, June 11: Florida vs. Auburn

At Fayetteville, Ark.
Saturday, June 9: Arkansas (42-18) vs. South Carolina (36-24)
Sunday, June 10: Arkansas vs. South Carolina
x-Monday, June 11: Arkansas vs. South Carolina

At Lubbock, Texas
Saturday, June 9: Texas Tech (42-17) vs. Duke (44-16)
Sunday, June 10: Texas Tech vs. Duke
x-Monday, June 11: Texas Tech vs. Duke

At Austin, Texas
Saturday, June 9: Texas (40-20) vs. Tennessee Tech (52-10)
Sunday, June 10: Texas vs. Tennessee Tech
x-Monday, June 11: Texas vs. Tennessee Tech

College softball

World Series

At ASA Hall of Fame Stadium
Oklahoma City
Double Elimination; x-if necessary

Thursday, May 31
Oregon 11, Arizona State 6
Washington 2, Oklahoma 0
Florida 11, Georgia 3, 5 innings
UCLA 7, Florida State 4

Friday, June 1
Washington 6, Oregon 2
UCLA 6, Florida 5

Saturday, June 2
Oklahoma 2, Arizona State 0, ASU eliminated
Florida State 7, Georgia 2, Georgia eliminated
Oklahoma 2, Florida 0, Florida eliminated
Florida State 4, Oregon 1, Oregon eliminated

Sunday, June 3
Washington 3, Oklahoma 0, OU eliminated
Florida State 3, UCLA 1
Florida State 12, UCLA 6, UCLA eliminated

Championship Series
Monday, June 4: Florida State 1, Washington 0
Tuesday, June 5: Florida State 8, Washington 3, Florida St. wins series 2-0

Boxing

Fight schedule

June 8
At Turning Stone Resort Casino, Verona, N.Y., Diego De La Hoya vs. Jose Salgado, 10, for De La Hoya's NABF and NABO super bantamweight titles.

June 9
At Manchester, England, Terry Flanagan vs. Maurice Hooker, 12, for the vacant WBO junior welterweight title; Tyson Fury vs. Sefer Seferi, 10, heavyweights; Nathan Gorman vs. Sean Turner, 10, heavyweights; Mark Heffron vs. Andrew Robinson, 10, middleweights; James Metcalf vs. Jorge Fortea, 10, junior middleweights.

At Staples Center, Los Angeles, Leo Santa Cruz vs. Abner Mares, 12, for Cruz's WBA featherweight title; Jermell Charlo vs. Austin Trout, 12, for Charlo's WBC junior middleweight title.

At MGM Grand, Las Vegas, Jeff Horn vs. Terence Crawford, 12, for Horn's WBO welterweight title; Alex Saucedo vs. Lenny Zappavigna, 10, junior welterweights.

June 16
At Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, Angel Acosta vs. Carlos Buitrago, 12, for Acosta's WBO junior flyweight title.

At Frisco, Texas, Errol Spence Jr. vs. Carlos Ocampo, 12, for Spence's IBF welterweight title; Danny Roman vs. Moises Flores, 12, for Roman's WBA junior featherweight title; Javier Fortuna vs. Adrian Granados, 10, junior welterweights.

Auto racing

Monster Energy NASCAR Cup schedule and winners

Feb. 11 — x-Advance Auto Parts Clash (Brad Keselowski)
Feb. 15 — x-Can-Am Duel 1 (Ryan Blaney)
Feb. 15 — x-Can-Am Duel 2 (Chase Elliott)
Feb. 18 — Daytona 500 (Austin Dillon)
Feb. 25 — Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (Kevin Harvick)
March 4 — Penzoil 400 (Kevin Harvick)
March 11 — TicketGuardian 500 (Kevin Harvick)
March 18 — Auto Club 400 (Martin Truex Jr.)
March 26 — STP 500 (Clint Bowyer)
April 8 — O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 (Kyle Busch)
April 15 — Food City 500 (Kyle Busch)
April 21 — Toyota Owners 400 (Kyle Busch)
April 29 — GEICO 500 (Joey Logano)
May 6 — AAA 400 Drive for Autism (Kevin Harvick)
May 12 — KC Masterpiece 400 (Kevin Harvick)
May 19 — x-NASCAR All-Star Open (AJ Allmendinger)
May 19 — x-NASCAR All-Star Race (Kevin Harvick)
May 27 — Coca-Cola 600 (Kyle Busch)
June 3 — Pocono 400 (Martin Truex Jr.)
June 10 — FireKeepers Casino 400, Brooklyn, Mich.
June 24 — Toyota/Save Mart 350, Sonoma, Calif.
July 1 — Overton's 400, Joliet, Ill.
July 7 — Coke Zero 400, Daytona Beach, Fla.
July 14 — Quaker State 400, Sparta, Ky.
July 22 — New Hampshire 301, Loudon
July 29 — Gander Outdoors 400, Long Pond, Pa.
Aug. 5 — GoBowling at The Glen, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Aug. 12 — Consumers Energy 400, Brooklyn, Mich.
Aug. 18 — Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race, Bristol, Tenn.
Sept. 2 — Bojangles' Southern 500, Darlington, S.C.
Sept. 9 — Big Machine Brickyard 400, Indianapolis
Sept. 16 — South Point 400, Las Vegas
Sept. 22 — Federated Auto Parts 400, Richmond, Va.
Sept. 30 — Bank of America 500, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 7 — TBA, Dover, Del.
Oct. 14 — 1000Bulbs.com 500, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 21 — Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas City, Kan.
Oct. 28 — First Data 500, Martinsville, Va.
Nov. 4 — AAA Texas 500, Fort Worth
Nov. 11 — Can-Am 500, Avondale, Ariz.
Nov. 18 — Ford Ecoboost 400, Homestead, Fla.
x-non-points race

NASCAR Xfinity schedule and winners

Feb. 17 — POWERSHARES QQQ 300 (Tyler Reddick)
Feb. 24 — Rinnai 500 (Kevin Harvick)
March 3 — Boyd Gaming 300 (Kyle Larson)
March 10 — DC Solar 200 (Brad Keselowski)
March 17 — Roseanne 300 (Joey Logano)
April 7 — My Bariatric Solutions 300 (Ryan Blaney)
April 14 — Fitzgerald Glider Kits 300 (Ryan Preece)
April 20 — ToyotaCare 250 (Christopher Bell)
April 28 — Sparks Energy 300 (Spencer Gallagher)
May 5 — OneMain Financial 200 (Justin Allgaier)
May 26 — Alsco 300 (Brad Keselowski)
June 2 — Pocono Green 250 (Kyle Busch)
June 9 — LTi Printing 250, Brooklyn, Mich.
June 17 — American Ethanol 250, Newton, Iowa.
June 30 — Overton's 300, Joliet, Ill.
July 6 — Coca-Cola Firecracker 250, Daytona Beach, Fla.
July 13 — Alsco 300, Sparta, Ky.
July 21 — Lakes Region 200, Loudon, N.H.
July 28 — U.S. Cellular 250, Newton, Iowa.
Aug. 4 — Zippo 200, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Aug. 11 — Mid-Ohio Challenge, Lexington, Ohio.
Aug. 17 — Food City 300, Bristol, Tenn.
Aug. 25 — Johnsonville 180, Elkhart Lake, Wis.
Sept. 1 — Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200, Darlington, S.C.
Sept. 8 — Lilly Diabetes 250, Indianapolis.
Sept. 15 — DC Solar 300, Las Vegas.
Sept. 21 — Go Bowling 250, Richmond, Va.
Sept. 29 — Drive for the Cure 300, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 6 — TBA, Dover, Del.
Oct. 20 — Kansas Lottery 300, Kansas City, Kan.
Nov. 3 — O'Reilly Auto Parts 300, Fort Worth, Texas.
Nov. 10 — TBA, Avondale, Ala.
Nov. 17 — Ford EcoBoost 300, Homestead, Fla.

NASCAR Camping World Truck schedule and winners

Feb. 16 — NextEra Energy Resources 250 (Johnny Sauter)
Feb. 24 — Active Pest Control 200 (Brett Moffitt)
March 2 — Stratosphere 200 (Kyle Busch)
March 26 — Alpha Energy Solutions 250 (John Hunter Nemechek)
May 4 — JEGS 200 (Johnny Sauter)
May 11 — 37 Kind Days 250 (Noah Gragson)
May 18 — North Carolina Education Lottery 200 (Johnny Sauter)
June 8 — Rattlesnake 400, Fort Worth, Texas.
June 16 — Iowa 200, Newton, Iowa.
June 23 — Gateway 200, Madison, Ill.
June 29 — Overton's 225, Joliet, Ill.
July 12 — Buckle Up in Your Truck 200, Sparta, Ky.
July 18 — Eldora Dirt Derby, Rossburg, Ohio.
July 28 — Gander Outdoors 150, Long Pond, Pa.
Aug. 11 — Corrigan Oil 200, Brooklyn, Mich.
Aug. 15 — UNOH 200, Bristol, Tenn.
Aug. 26 — Chevrolet Silverado 250, Bowmanville, Ontario.
Sept. 14 — TBA, Las Vegas.
Oct. 13 — TBA, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 27 — Texas Roadhouse 200, Martinsville, Tenn.
Nov. 2 — JAG Metals 350, Fort Worth, Texas.
Nov. 9 — Lucas Oil 150, Avondale, Ariz.
Nov. 16 — Ford Ecoboost 200, Homestead, Fla.

IndyCar schedule and winners

March 11 — Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg (Sebastien Bourdais)
April 7 — Phoenix Grand Prix (Josef Newgarden)
April 15 — Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach (Alexander Rossi)
April 22 — Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama (Josef Newgarden)
May 12 — Grand Prix of Indianapolis (Will Power)
May 27 — Indianapolis 500 (Will Power)
June 2 — Chevrolet Indy Duel (Race 1) (Scott Dixon)
June 3 — Chevrolet Indy Duel (Race 2) (Ryan Hunter-Reay)
June 9 — Texas Indy 600, Fort Worth
June 24 — Kohler Grand Prix, Elkhart Lake, Wis.
July 8 — Iowa Corn 300, Newton, Iowa
July 15 — Honda Indy Toronto
July 29 — Honda Indy 200 at Mid-Ohio, Lexington, Ohio
Aug. 19 — ABC Supply 500, Long Pond, Pa.
Aug. 25 — Bommarito Automotive Group 500, Madison, Ill.
Sept. 2 — TBA, Portland, Ore.
Sept. 16 — Grand Prix of Sonoma, Calif.

Formula One schedule and winners

March 25 — Australian Grand Prix (Sebastian Vettel)
April 8 — Bahrain Grand Prix (Sebastian Vettel)
April 15 — Chinese Grand Prix (Daniel Ricciardo)
April 29 — Azerbaijan Grand Prix (Lewis Hamilton)
May 13 — Spanish Grand Prix (Lewis Hamilton)
May 27 — Monaco Grand Prix (Daniel Ricciardo)
June 10 — Canadian Grand Prix, Montreal
June 24 — French Grand Prix, Le Castellet, Var, France
July 1 — Austrian Grand Prix, Spielberg
July 8 — British Grand Prix, Silverstone, England
July 22 — German Grand Prix, Hockenheim
July 29 — Hungarian Grand Prix, Budapest
Aug. 26 — Belgian Grand Prix, Spa-Francorchamps
Sept. 2 — Italian Grand Prix, Monza
Sept. 16 — Singapore Grand Prix
Sept. 30 — Russian Grand Prix, Sochi
Oct. 7 — Japanese Grand Prix, Suzuka
Oct. 21 — United States Grand Prix, Austin, Texas
Oct. 28 — Mexican Grand Prix, Mexico City
Nov. 11 — Brazilian Grand Prix, Sao Paolo
Nov. 25 — Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Yas Marina, UAE

AP sportlight

June 7
1995 — Hakeem Olajuwon's tip-in with .3 seconds left gives Houston a 120-118 overtime win in Game 1 of the NBA Finals. Houston, trailing by 20 points in the first half, are led back by Kenny Smith, whose Finals record seventh three pointer sends the game into overtime. Orlando's Nick Anderson's misses four free throws in the 10.5 seconds in regulation that allows Houston to stay in the game.
2006 — New Jersey becomes the first state to institute a statewide steroid-testing policy for high school athletes.

Deals

Tuesday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Recalled C Austin Wynns from Norfolk (IL).
BOSTON RED SOX — Placed LHP Drew Pomeranz on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Saturday. Recalled RHP Brandon Workman from Pawtucket (IL). Sent RHP Tyler Thornburg to Pawtucket for a rehab assignment.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Recalled C Kevan Smith from Charlotte (IL). Added RHP Juan Minaya from Charlotte as 26th man.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Optioned OF Bradley Zimmer to Columbus (IL). Reinstated OF Lonnie Chisenhall from the 10-day DL.
DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned RHP Sandy Baez to Erie (EL). Assigned SS Pete Kozma outright to Toledo (IL). Signed RHP Gerson Moreno to a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Optioned INF Kaleb Cowart to Salt Lkae (PCL). Recalled RHP Eduardo Paredes from Salt Lake.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Placed RHP Daniel Gossett on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Monday. Optioned RHP Josh Lucas to Nashville (PCL). Reinstated RHP Liam Hendriks from the 10-day DL. Recalled C Josh Phegley from Nashville.
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Placed RHP Chris Archer on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Diego Castillo from Durham (IL). Optioned RHP Yonny Chirinos to Durham.
TEXAS RANGERS — Released RHP Tim Lincecum.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Optioned OF Socrates Brito to Reno (PCL). Selected the contract of 3B Kristopher Negron from Reno. Sent RHP Shelby Miller to Jackson (SL) for a rehab assignment.
CINCINNATI REDS — Optioned RHP Jackson Stephens to Louisville (IL). Released RHP Kevin Shackelford. Reinstated RHP Anthony DeSclafani from the 60-day DL.
COLORADO ROCKIES — Optioned INF Daniel Castro to Albuquerque (PCL). Recalled OF Mike Tauchman from Albuquerque.
NEW YORK METS — Optioned RHP Gerson Bautista to Las Vegas (PCL). Designated LHP Budday Baumann for assignment. Reinstated 3B Todd Frazier and RHP Anthony Swarzak from the 10-day DL.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Assigned RHP Drew Hutchison outright to Lehigh Valley (IL). Sent SS J.P. Crawford to Lehigh Valley for a rehab assignment.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Optioned C Carson Kelly and RHP Mike Mayers to Memphis (PCL). Designated C Steven Baron for assignment. Reinstated C Yadier Molina and RHP Carlos Martinez from the 10-day DL. Selected the contract of RHP Preston Guilmet from Memphis (PCL).
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Optioned RHP Pierce Johnson to Sacramento (PCL). Reinstated LHP Madison Bumgarner from the 60-day DL.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Optioned RHP Jefry Rodriguez to Harrisburg (EL). Placed RHP Jeremy Hellickson on the 10-day DL. Reinstated LHP Matt Grace from the 10-day DL and LHP Tim Collins from paternity leave.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

CHICAGO BEARS — Placed TE Zach Miller on the PUP list.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Terminated the contract of LB Tank Carder. Signed LB Mychal Kendricks.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed P Taylor Symmank.
NEW YORK JETS — Signed DL lineman Chris Jones. Waived DL Claude Pelon.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed OL Jerald Hawkins and TE Jake McGee on injured reserve. Signed OT Bryce Harris and TE Ryan Malleck to one-year contracts.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Waived DB Trovon Reed.

XFL

XFL — Named Oliver Luck commissioner.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

CALGARY FLAMES — Renewed their affiliation with Kansas City (ECHL).
DETROIT RED WINGS — Named Ben Simon coach of Grand Rapids (AHL).
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Promoted Nelson Emerson to director of player personnel and Glen Murray to director of player development. Named Richard Seeley general manager and Jaroslav Modry assistant coach of Ontario (AHL). Reassigned Ontario director of hockey operations Hubie McDonough to scout.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Fired coach Doug Weight and general manager Garth Snow.
ST. LOUIS BLUES — Named Drew Bannister coach of San Antonio (AHL).

OLYMPIC SPORTS

USA CYCLING — Named Tim Johnson USA Cycling Foundation development director.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer

ATLANTA UNITED — Signed F Yosef Samuel to a short-term agreement.

COLLEGE

MEN'S BASKETBALL COLLEGIATE OFFICIATING CONSORTIUM — Named Jim Haney assistant coordinator of men's officiating, assigned to America East Conference beginning next season.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES — Announced West Virginia coach Bob Huggins and Missouri coach Cuonzo Martin accepted invitations to join the board of directors.

NBA FINALS

Stars won't go to White House

Curry, LeBron say they'd reject Trump invite

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Stephen Curry and LeBron James spoke their minds last year. They have not changed their minds this year.

No matter whose team wins the NBA championship, neither superstar will be at the White House anytime soon.

On the day when the Philadelphia Eagles were supposed to be there to commemorate winning the Super Bowl — a visit that was canceled by President Donald Trump and had the White House accusing players who weren't planning on attending of abandoning their fans — Curry and James were among those speaking out at the NBA Finals in support of the Eagles.

"I'm not surprised. It's typical of him," James, the Cleveland star, said Tuesday of Trump's decision to cancel. "I know no matter who wins this series, no one wants the invite anyway. So it won't be Golden State or Cleveland going."

On the eve of Game 3 of the Warriors-Cavaliers series, politics dominated the conversation.

Curry raised Trump's ire last year when he said he wouldn't go to the White House, prompting the President to disinvite him and the champion Golden State Warriors.

Curry said Tuesday that he spoke with a current Eagles player about the team's decision-making process and how it went deeper than disagreeing with Trump policies and the ongoing issue of some NFL players choosing not to stand for the pregame playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"It's an important conversation, but you can't control what other people try to do, or try to control the narrative or things like that," Curry said.

Curry said the team has been on the same page after his comments last year and Trump's subsequent revoking of the Warriors' invitation. "And every team that's won a championship since then has gone through that."

There has been clear tension between many star athletes and the current administration throughout the Trump presidency. Trump has often blasted the NFL players who have kneeled for the national anthem, a protest that started in 2016 when San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick did so to raise awareness of racism — more specifically, the killing of black men by police.

Trump said the Eagles' event was called off because some of their players "disagree with their President because he insists that they proudly stand for the National Anthem, hand on heart, in honor of the great men and women of our military and the people of our country."

No Eagles players kneeled during the anthem last season.

"Instead the decision was made to lie, and paint the picture that these players are anti-America, anti-flag and anti-military," the Eagles' Malcolm Jenkins wrote in a statement posted to social media Tuesday.

The WNBA champion Minnesota Lynx were not invited to the White House to celebrate their most recent title, something James called "laughable." Instead, the Lynx will spend Wednesday giving away new sneakers to more than 300 needy kids in Washington. Villanova, the reigning NCAA men's champion, has not revealed if an invitation was sent. Many members of the U.S. Olympic Team that competed earlier this year in South Korea did not attend a White House reception.

Hockey's Pittsburgh Penguins and baseball's Houston Astros have accepted invitations to the White House for the traditional meeting with the President in recent months, as have several college teams. When the New England Patriots went last year, half the team chose not to attend.

The Warriors, in lieu of going to the White House, spent that day taking a group of children to the National Museum of African American History and Culture a few miles away.

"I think the President has made it pretty clear he's going to try to divide us, all of us in this country, for political gain," said Golden State coach Steve Kerr, who has often criticized Trump and his policies. "So it's just the way it is. I think we all look forward to the day when we can go back to just having a celebration of athletic achievement and celebrate Americans for their achievement, their good deeds."

Kerr also lauded the Eagles for being what he called "fantastic citizens in their own community."

"It will be nice when we can just get back to normal in three years," Kerr said.

The overwhelming issue surrounding the Eagles' planned visit was that most of the team was not going to attend, and that was a major factor in Trump deciding to pull the invitation.

"What else do you expect Trump to do?" Golden State's Kevin Durant said. "When somebody says they don't want to come to the White House, he disinvites them. So the photo op don't look bad. We get it at this point. But it's good that guys are sticking to what they believe in and what they want to do. Like guys said before me, I'm sure whoever wins this series won't be going."

Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP

Warriors guard Stephen Curry, right, celebrates with guard Klay Thompson during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals on Sunday in Oakland, Calif.

Age: Warriors aim to extend momentum

FROM BACK PAGE

"You look at it, they've got four Hall of Famers on their team in Klay, Dray, Steph and KD. They've got a Finals MVP that comes off their bench," James said in reference to Iguodala. "... I don't know where they will fall in my book, but they will have a nice chapter."

Not everybody is ready to crown the Warriors as a dynasty, not just yet anyway. Not even if they win the title this year.

"I don't like to go dynasty stuff, they've been the team of the decade," said Gary Payton, the longtime Seattle SuperSonics point guard who played 17 seasons through 2007. "That's what it is. They've been doing their thing. When we get into a dynasty is Michael Jordan and them winning six, that's a dynasty. The Golden State Warriors (would have) won three out of four, that's great.

"It's coming to be a dynasty. If you win a couple more, then you're talking about a dynasty. So three of them is in the right stage and the right movement to becoming a dynasty, yes."

The defending champions are playing in a fourth straight finals chasing a repeat they couldn't pull off in 2016 after capturing the franchise's first title in 40 years during 2014-15 with Kerr as a rookie head coach.

TNT analyst and former player Charles Barkley wants nothing to do with dynasty talk regarding the Warriors.

"We don't have any dynasties. It's been a long time since we've had a dynasty," Barkley said. "The Bulls won six, the Spurs won five. We've had a lot of really good teams. I think the only dynasty is the Spurs. They've been great for 20 years. The Warriors are not going to win. Winning two in four years is not a dynasty."

Golden State would love nothing more than to continue building momentum as the franchise approaches the opening of its new San Francisco arena, Chase Center, in summer 2019 if all remains on schedule. That leaves one last season at Oracle Arena.

B.J. Armstrong earned titles alongside Jordan with the Bulls from 1991-93. If the Warriors win another, they will join dynasty status in Armstrong's mind.

"They're right there," Armstrong said. "For them to have a sustained level of excellence like they've had, I don't take that for granted and I think anyone who's played or observed this game knows how difficult that is for one, let alone to be able to get here four times and have an opportunity to win three speaks for itself. ...

"If they win this one, they're right up there with all of the teams for a dynasty-type caliber situation up here in Golden State."

Curry was around for all the losing: 26 wins his rookie season of 2009-10, 23 two years later then gradually building to more victories each season thereafter.

He is proud to be part of a transformation — one the two-time MVP hopes they contend for titles for years to come.

"What we've been able to do here ... kind of taking a small step every year until 2015, winning our first championship, it is a sense of pride around that," Curry said. "Being the elder statesman here and seeing what has all gone into being on this stage every single year — when it comes to the guys that I get to suit up with every single night, from Bob Myers down to the coaching staff to the ownership — it's just a transformation that I got to see firsthand and all the details that went into it.

"So at some point, when this is all said and done, I hope to kind of just sit back and really truly appreciate, from start to finish, all that went into it. But there is an awareness of where we were to where we are. And I appreciate it."

Scoreboard

Finals

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

Golden State 2, Cleveland 0

Golden State 124, Cleveland 114, OT
Golden State 122, Cleveland 103

Wednesday: at Cleveland. **AFN-Sports: 3 a.m. Thursday, CET; 10 a.m. Thursday, JKT**

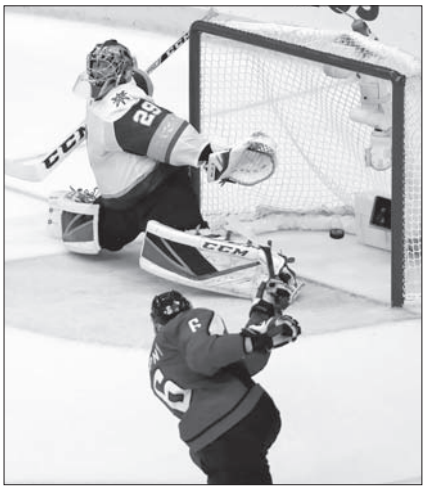
Friday: at Cleveland. **AFN-Sports: 3 a.m. Saturday, CET; 10 a.m. Saturday, JKT**

x-Monday: at Golden State. **AFN-Sports: 3 a.m. Tuesday, CET; 10 a.m. Tuesday, JKT**

x-Thursday, June 14: at Cleveland. **AFN-Sports: 3 a.m. Friday, CET; 10 a.m. Friday, JKT**

x-Sunday, June 17: at Golden State **AFN-Sports: 2 a.m. Monday, CET; 9 a.m. Monday, JKT**

STANLEY CUP FINAL



Pablo Martinez Monsivais, above, and Alex Brandon, below/AP

Above: Capitals defenseman Michal Kempny, bottom, scores a goal against Vegas Golden Knights goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury during Game 4 of the Stanley Cup Final on Monday in Washington. Below: Vegas Golden Knights head coach Gerard Gallant watches from behind the bench during the third period of his team's 6-2 loss.

Golden Knights must play better for Fleury

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

Gerard Gallant didn't consider pulling Marc-Andre Fleury as another game and perhaps the Vegas Golden Knights' Stanley Cup hopes slipped away.

The struggles and another pile of Washington Capitals goals are on the entire team. Gallant couldn't pull all his players at once.

"There was nothing that he could have done," Gallant said.

As the face of the franchise and its backbone on the ice, Fleury did just about everything to lead the expansion Golden Knights to the Cup Final with a .947 save percentage that made him the playoff MVP front-runner. In four games against Washington, Fleury has allowed 16 goals on 103 shots, a pedestrian .845 save percentage that speaks as much to Vegas crashing back down to earth as a team.

There is plenty of blame to pass around for the Golden Knights as they face a 3-1 series deficit that no team since the 1942 Toronto Maple Leafs has overcome in the final. Vegas needs Fleury to be better and his teammates to improve in front of him in Game 5 on Thursday night or they will watch their opponent celebrate a championship on their home ice.

"When you're a goalie you don't want to get scored on," Fleury said. "There was a lot of that (in Game 4). It's never a good feeling. It's a team game. Everybody's trying hard out there, trying to help me out. We'll find a way to make it work."

It's not working right now. The Capitals' strategy of making lateral passes to get Fleury moving side-to-side is proving effective at even strength and on a power play that's scoring at a 26.7 percent clip.

Forward Alex Tuch said staying out of the penalty box is one necessary improvement, but it goes beyond that. Vegas has ridden Fleury to this point and now has to cut down on the high-danger scoring chances he's facing and too often allowing to turn into goals.

"Play better defensively," Gallant said Tuesday. "There's too many guys staring at the puck carrier, and we're leaving the back side open too much. Make sure we're paying attention to the guys behind the puck and away from the puck. Marc will make the save on the guy shooting the puck. We've just got to make sure we're taking away the passes."

Fleury didn't make the save on Devante Smith-Pelly on the doorstep in Game 4 as the Golden Knights fell behind 3-0 despite one of their best periods of the series that featured James Neal's inexplicable shot off the post while facing a wide-open net. As Gallant pointed out, Fleury had little chance on others as Washington put up six goals in a blowout.

Golden Knights players can't help but feel like they're letting "Flower" down.

"We have the best goalie in the league and he's been carrying (us) the whole year along and we feel like the goals ... there's not much you can do on those," center Pierre-Edouard Bellemare said. "This is the frustrating part."

Fleury acknowledged falling behind 3-1 was demoralizing. But the 33-year-old refuses to say fatigue has been a factor for him or his teammates.

"I think everybody's fine," Fleury said. "It's the same for their team, also. They've been through the same season, same playoffs. Being tired is no excuse."

The Golden Knights have lost three games in a row as they near the end of an otherwise-charmed inaugural season. Perhaps Fleury has one more stand-on-his head, stop-everything game left in him in front of the home fans in Las Vegas, but the Golden Knights will need more than a singular effort from their goalie.

"Not where we want to be, that's for sure," Fleury said. "Nobody's quitting. We're going home. We've had some success there. We just have to focus on period at a time, you know? Don't think too far ahead. Just play our game, see where that takes us."

Scoreboard

Stanley Cup Final

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)
Washington 3, Vegas 1
Vegas 6, Washington 4
Washington 3, Vegas 2
Washington 3, Vegas 1
Washington 6, Vegas 2
Thursday: at Vegas **AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Friday CET; 8 a.m. Friday JKT**
x-Sunday, June 10: at Washington **AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Monday CET; 8 a.m. Monday JKT**
x-Wednesday, June 13: at Vegas **AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Thursday CET; 8 a.m. Thursday JKT**

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	42	19	.689	—
New York	39	18	.684	1
Tampa Bay	28	31	.475	13
Toronto	26	34	.433	15½
Baltimore	18	41	.305	23
Central Division				
Cleveland	31	28	.525	—
Detroit	29	33	.468	3½
Minnesota	26	31	.456	4
Kansas City	21	40	.344	11
Chicago	19	39	.328	11½
West Division				
Seattle	38	22	.633	—
Houston	37	25	.597	2
Los Angeles	34	28	.548	5
Oakland	31	30	.508	7½
Texas	26	37	.413	13½

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	36	25	.590	—
Washington	34	25	.576	1
Philadelphia	32	26	.552	2½
New York	27	31	.466	7½
Miami	21	39	.350	14½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	37	24	.607	—
Chicago	33	24	.579	2
St. Louis	32	26	.552	3½
Pittsburgh	30	30	.500	6½
Cincinnati	21	40	.344	16
West Division				
Arizona	32	28	.533	—
Colorado	31	29	.517	1
Los Angeles	30	30	.500	2
San Francisco	30	31	.492	2½
San Diego	28	35	.444	5½

Monday's games

N.Y. Yankees 7, Detroit 4, 1st game
Detroit 4, N.Y. Yankees 2, 2nd game
L.A. Angels 9, Kansas City 6
San Francisco 10, Arizona 3
San Diego 11, Atlanta 4

Tuesday's games

Minnesota 4, Chicago White Sox 2, 1st game
Chicago White Sox 6, Minnesota 3, 2nd game
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 2
Baltimore 2, N.Y. Mets 1
Boston 6, Detroit 0
Cleveland 3, Milwaukee 2
Texas 7, Oakland 4
Seattle 7, Houston 1
L.A. Angels 1, Kansas City 0
L.A. Dodgers 5, Pittsburgh 0
Colorado 9, Cincinnati 6
Philadelphia 6, Chicago Cubs 1
Miami 7, St. Louis 4
Atlanta 14, San Diego 1
Arizona 3, San Francisco 2

Wednesday's games

Tampa Bay at Washington
Baltimore at N.Y. Mets
Milwaukee at Cleveland
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto
Detroit at Boston
Oakland at Texas
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota
Seattle at Houston
Kansas City at L.A. Angels
Atlanta at San Diego
Arizona at San Francisco
L.A. Dodgers at Pittsburgh
Colorado at Cincinnati
Philadelphia at Chicago Cubs
Miami at St. Louis

Thursday's games

Chicago White Sox (Shields 1-6) at Minnesota (Berrios 6-5)
Baltimore (Hess 2-2) at Toronto (Garcia 2-4)
Detroit (Boyd 3-4) at Boston (Beeks 0-0)
Seattle (Leake 5-3) at Tampa Bay (TBD)
Houston (Cole 6-1) at Texas (Hamels 3-5)
Kansas City (Hammel 2-5) at Oakland (TBD)
Colorado (Anderson 3-1) at Cincinnati (Mahle 4-6)
L.A. Dodgers (Santana 1-0) at Pittsburgh (Taillon 3-4)
Miami (Hernandez 0-3) at St. Louis (Mikolas 6-1)
Philadelphia (Pivetta 4-4) at Chicago Cubs (Chatwood 3-4)

Tuesday

Dodgers 5, Pirates 0

Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi	Pittsburgh	ab	r	h	bi
C.Tylor ss	3	1	1	0	Hrrison 2b	4	0	1	0
Muncy 3b	3	0	1	0	Meadows cf	4	0	1	0
Grandal c	4	0	0	0	Crvelli c	4	0	1	0
M.Kemp lf	3	1	1	1	J.Bell 1b	4	0	0	0
P.Baez p	0	0	0	0	Dckrson lf	4	0	2	0
Hudson p	0	0	0	0	Moran 3b	4	0	1	0
Pderson cf-lf	4	1	1	2	Polanco rf	4	0	0	0
Puig rf	4	1	1	1	S.Rdrig ss	3	0	0	0
Bllnger 1b	4	1	1	1	Msgrove p	1	0	0	0
Frsythe 2b	4	0	1	0	S.Marte ph	1	0	1	0
Strplng p	2	0	0	0	Glasnow p	0	0	0	0
Alxnder p	0	0	0	0	Rich.Rd p	0	0	0	0
Valera ph	1	0	0	0	A.Frzer ph	0	0	0	0
Fields p	0	0	0	0	F.Vazqz p	0	0	0	0
K.Hrnan cf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	33	5	7	5	**Totals**	33	0	7	0

Los Angeles	021	101	000—5
Pittsburgh	000	000	000—0

E—S.Rodriguez (3), C.Taylor (5). DP—Los Angeles 2. LOB—Los Angeles 4, Pittsburgh 7. HR—Pederson (4), Puig (7), Bellinger (9). SB—C.Taylor (3). CS—Dickerson (2). SF—M.Kemp (4).

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Stripling W,4-1	5	4	0	0	0	7
Alexander	1	1	0	0	0	0
Fields	1	0	0	0	0	0
Baez	1	1	0	0	1	0
Hudson	1	1	0	0	0	1
Pittsburgh						
Musgrove L,2-1	5	6	4	3	1	5
Glasnow	2	1	1	1	1	3
Rodriguez	1	0	0	0	0	1
Vazquez	1	0	0	0	0	2

T—3:01. A—12,879 (38,362).

Braves 14, Padres 1

Atlanta	ab	r	h	bi	San Diego	ab	r	h	bi
Albies 2b	5	1	1	0	Prla 2b-1b	4	0	1	0
Camargo 3b	5	2	1	1	Hosmer 1b	2	0	0	0
F.Frman 1b	4	3	4	2	Spgnbr 2b-p	2	0	0	0
Bourjos rf	1	0	1	0	Renfroe lf	2	0	0	0
Mrkakis rf	5	1	2	3	Vllneva 3b	4	0	0	0
L.Jcksn p	1	0	0	0	F.Reyes rf	4	1	1	1
Suzuki c	6	1	3	2	Galvis ss	3	0	1	0
Incarte cf	4	1	0	0	Ellis c	2	0	1	0
Clbrson lf	5	2	2	2	Margot cf	3	0	0	0
Swanson ss	4	2	3	3	P.Hghes p	0	0	0	0
Newcomb p	2	0	0	0	R.Lopez 1b	0	0	0	0
R.Flhrt ph-1b	2	1	1	1	Lyles p	0	0	0	0
					Mtchell p	1	0	0	0
					Szczur cf	1	0	0	0
Totals	44	14	18	14	**Totals**	28	1	4	1

Atlanta	101	150	501—14
San Diego	000	000	001— 1

E—Pirela (4). DP—Atlanta 3, San Diego 1. LOB—Atlanta 10, San Diego 5. 2B—Albies (18), F.Freeman 2 (18), Suzuki (9), Culberson (4), R.Flaherty (6). HR—F.Freeman (10), Markakis (8), Swanson (6), F.Reyes (6). SB—Culberson (1). S—Newcomb (4).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Atlanta						
Newcomb W,7-1	6	3	0	0	3	4
Jackson S,1-1	3	1	1	1	2	5
San Diego						
Lyles L,2-2	4⅓	11	8	8	2	1
Mitchell	2⅔	5	5	5	2	1
Hughes	1	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Mitchell (Albies). WP—Lyles. T—2:55. A—21,049 (42,445).

Angels 1, Royals 0

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi	Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
Jay cf	3	0	0	0	Kinsler 2b	4	0	0	0
Mrrfeld 2b	4	0	0	0	A.Smmns ss	0	0	0	0
Mstakas 3b	4	0	0	0	J.Marte 1b	3	0	0	0
S.Perez c	3	0	0	0	Trout dh	4	0	1	0
Soler rf	2	0	0	0	Upton lf	3	0	3	0
H.Dzier 1b	3	0	1	0	Vlbna 1b-3b	3	0	0	0
A.Escbr ss	3	0	0	0	Cozrt 3b-ss	3	0	0	0
A.Grdon lf	3	0	0	0	Mldnado c	3	0	1	0
Butera dh	3	0	0	0	Young cf	3	1	1	0
					Hrmsllo rf	3	0	1	0
Totals	28	0	1	0	**Totals**	29	1	7	0

Kansas City	000	000	000—0
Los Angeles	000	010	00x—1

DP—Kansas City 1. LOB—Kansas City 3, Los Angeles 5. CS—Hermosillo (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Kansas City						
Keller L,1-2	4⅓	5	1	1	1	3
McCarthy	⅔	0	0	0	0	0
Oaks	3	2	0	0	0	3
Los Angeles						
Heaney W,3-4	9	1	0	0	1	4

HBP—by Heaney (Jay). T—2:16. A—31,514 (45,050).

Marlins 7, Cardinals 4

Miami	ab	r	h	bi	St. Louis	ab	r	h	bi
S.Cstro 2b	4	1	1	0	M.Crpnt 3b	5	1	3	0
Detrich lf	3	2	2	1	Mrtinez 1b	4	1	2	0
Conley p	0	0	0	0	Pham cf	4	0	0	1
Stcknrd p	0	0	0	0	Ozuna lf	4	1	3	1
Brinson ph-cf	1	0	0	0	Y.Mlina c	4	0	1	1
Ralmuto c	4	1	1	0	De.Fwlr rf	4	0	1	0
Bour 1b	3	0	0	1	Munoz ss	4	0	1	0
Brrclgh p	0	0	0	0	Wong 2b	4	0	1	0
Bri.And rf	5	1	3	3	C.Mrtin p	1	0	0	0
Rojas 3b	4	0	0	0	Guilmet p	0	0	0	0
Riddle ss	4	1	2	1	Voit ph	0	1	0	0
Shuck cf	1	1	0	0	Gomber p	0	0	0	0
Ziegler p	0	0	0	0	Bader ph	1	0	0	0
Y.Rvera ph-1b	1	0	0	0	Lyons p	0	0	0	0
J.Urena p	2	0	0	0	Tvilala p	0	0	0	0
Maybin ph-lf	1	0	0	0	Brebbia p	0	0	0	0
					Gyorko ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	33	7	9	6	**Totals**	36	4	12	3

Miami	002	032	000—7
St. Louis	011	020	000—4

E—M.Carpenter (4), Munoz (4). DP—Miami 2, St. Louis 3. LOB—Miami 10, St. Louis 6. 2B—Dietrich (12), Wong (4). HR—Bri.Anderson (3), Riddle (2). SB—Shuck (2). SF—Dietrich (1), Bour (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Miami						
Urena W,1-7	5	10	4	4	1	3
Conley H,1	1	2	0	0	0	2
Steckenrider H,9	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ziegler H,1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Barraclough S,2-4	1	0	0	0	0	0
St. Louis						
Martinez	4	4	2	2	5	5
Guilmet L,0-1	1	3	3	3	0	0
Gomber	1	1	2	2	2	0
Lyons	1	0	0	0	1	1
Tuivailala	1	0	0	0	1	2
Brebbia	1	1	0	0	0	2

WP—Urena, Guilmet. T—3:12. A—40,070 (45,538).

Mariners 7, Astros 1

Seattle	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
D.Grdon 2b	4	1	1	0	Sprnger rf	4	0	1	0
Segura ss	4	1	2	1	Bregman 3b	4	0	1	0
Haniger rf	4	1	0	1	Altuve 2b	4	0	2	0
N.Cruz dh	4	1	2	0	Correa ss	4	1	1	0
Seager 3b	4	1	1	3	Gurriel 1b	4	0	1	0
Healy 1b	4	0	0	0	Gattis dh	4	0	0	0
Heredia cf	4	0	0	0	M.Gnzal lf	4	0	3	1
Gamel lf	4	1	1	0	Stassi c	3	0	0	0
Zunino c	3	1	1	2	Mrsnick cf	2	0	0	0
Totals	35	7	8	7	**Totals**	33	1	9	1

Seattle	420	010	000—7
Houston	010	000	000—1

E—Altuve (2). DP—Seattle 3. LOB—Seattle 2, Houston 6. 2B—M.Gonzalez (8). 3B—M.Gonzalez (2). HR—Segura (5), Seager (10), Zunino (9).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Seattle						
Paxton W,5-1	7⅔	9	1	1	1	6
Nicasio	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Bradford	1	0	0	0	0	0
Houston						
Keuchel L,3-8	6⅔	7	7	7	1	3
Peacock	1⅓	1	0	0	0	2
Smith	1	0	0	0	0	2

T—2:29. A—35,646 (41,168).

Twins 4, White Sox 2

First game

Chicago	ab	r	h	bi	Minnesota	ab	r	h	bi
Moncada 2b	5	2	2	1	B.Dzier 2b	3	1	1	0
Y.Sanch 3b	4	0	1	0	E.Rsrio dh	3	1	0	0
J.Abreu 1b	4	0	1	1	Sano 1b	3	0	1	1
Palka dh	4	0	1	0	G.Petit pr-1b	0	1	0	0
Ti.Andr ss	3	0	0	0	E.Escbr 3b	4	1	2	3
Narvaez c	4	0	0	0	Kepler rf	4	0	0	0
Engel cf	4	0	2	0	Grssman lf	3	0	0	0
Tilson lf	4	0	1	0	LaMarre cf	1	0	0	0
T.Thmps rf	4	0	0	0	Adranza ss	3	0	0	0
					B.Wlson c	2	0	0	0
					Garver ph-c	1	0	0	0
Totals	36	2	8	2	**Totals**	27	4	4	4

Chicago	100	010	000—2
Minnesota	000	000	04x—4

E—B.Dozier (6). LOB—Chicago 8, Minnesota 4. 2B—J.Abreu (22), Palka (6), E.Escobar (21). HR—Moncada (8), E.Escobar (11). SB—Moncada (7), B.Dozier (3).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chicago						
Lopez	7	1	0	0	4	4
Jones L,2-2 BS,3	⅔	3	4	4	1	1
Avilan	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Minnesota						
Romero	6	7	2	2	0	4
Duffey W,1-1	2	1	0	0	0	2
Rodney S,13-16	1	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Romero (Anderson). WP—Romero. T—2:37.

White Sox 6, Twins 3

Second game

Chicago	ab	r	h	bi	Minnesota	ab	r	h	bi
Moncada 2b	4	1	1	0	Grssman dh	3	2	1	0
Y.Sanch 3b	4	1	2	2	E.Rsrio lf	5	0	2	0
J.Abreu 1b	5	1	2	2	Sano 1b	4	0	0	0
Dvidson dh	4	0	1	0	E.Escbr 3b	4	0	3	2
Ti.Andr ss	3	1	1	0	Kepler rf	4	0	2	0
K.Smith c	4	1	1	1	Garver c	4	0	1	0
Engel cf	4	0	1	1	LaMarre cf	4	0	0	0
Tilson lf	4	0	0	0	Adranza ss	4	0	1	0
T.Thmps rf	3	1	0	0	G.Petit 2b	2	1	0	0
					B.Dzier ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	6	9	6	**Totals**	34	3	10	2

Chicago	400	200	000—6
Minnesota	002	000	010—3

E—Sano (5). DP—Chicago 2, Minnesota 1. LOB—Chicago 7, Minnesota 8. 2B—Y.Sanchez 2 (10), Ti.Anderson (7), Engel (6), E.Escobar 2 (23), Adrianza (9). HR—J.Abreu (10).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chicago						
Giolito W,4-6	6	6	2	2	2	1
Volstad	1	1	0	0	0	0
Fry	0	1	1	1	1	0
Rondon H,3	⅓	1	0	0	0	1
Avilan H,4	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Soria S,5-7	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1
Minnesota						
Littell L,0-1	3	6	6	6	4	1
Magill	3	1	0	0	1	3
Hildenberger	1	0	0	0	0	1
Rogers	1	0	0	0	0	2
Duke	1	2	0	0	0	0

Littell pitched to 2 batters in the 4th Fry pitched to 2 batters in the 8th HBP—by Soria (Dozier). T—3:07. A—26,261 (38,649).

Indians 3, Brewers 2

Milwaukee	ab	r	h	bi	Cleveland	ab	r	h	bi
Cain cf	4	0	2	1	Lindor ss	4	0	0	0
Yelich rf	4	0	1	0	Brntley lf	4	0	1	0
Aguilar 1b	4	0	0	0	Jose.Rm 3b	4	1	1	1
T.Shaw 3b	4	1	1	1	Encrnco dh	3	1	1	0
Braun lf	4	0	1	0	Alonso 1b	4	1	1	0
Choi dh	4	0	1	0	Kipnis 2b	3	0	2	0
Villar 2b	4	0	0	0	Gomes c	3	0	1	0
Pina c	3	1	1	0	Chsnhll rf	3	0	1	2
Arcia ss	3	0	1	0	G.Allen cf	3	0	0	0
Totals	34	2	8	2	**Totals**	31	3	8	3

Milwaukee	001	000	001—2
Cleveland	021	000	00x—3

DP—Milwaukee 1, Cleveland 1. LOB—Milwaukee 5, Cleveland 5. 2B—Pina (6), Brantley (13), Encarnacion (8), Kipnis (14). HR—T.Shaw (14), Jose.Ramirez (19).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Milwaukee						
Guerra L,3-4	6	7	3	3	1	5
Jennings	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2
Knebel	⅔	1	0	0	0	1
Cleveland						
Kluber W,9-2	7	7	1	1	0	7
Ramirez H,2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Allen S,10-11	1	1	1	1	0	1

T—2:39. A—22,330 (35,225).

Red Sox 6, Tigers 0

Detroit	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Martin cf	3	0	0	0	Bnntndi lf	5	1	1	0
Cstllns rf	4	0	2	0	Bgaerts ss	3	1	1	1
Mi.Cbrr 1b	3	0	0	0	J.Mrtin dh	4	3	2	2
V.Mrtin dh	4	0	0	0	Mreland 1b	4	1	2	0
Cndlrio 3b	2	0	0	0	E.Nunez 2b	4	0	2	1
Ro.Rdrg 3b	1	0	0	0	Holt rf	3	0	0	1
J.McCnn c	2	0	0	0	Devers 3b	3	0	0	0
J.Jones lf	3	0	0	0	C.Vazqz c	3	0	0	0
J.Iglss ss	3	0	0	0	Brdly J cf	3	0	2	0
D.Mchdo 2b	3	0	1	0					
Totals	28	0	3	0	**Totals**	32	6	10	5

Detroit	000	000	000—0
Boston	200	220	00x—6

E—Candelario (6). DP—Detroit 2, Boston 1. LOB—Detroit 4, Boston 7. 2B—Castellanos (20). HR—Bogaerts (9), J.Martinez (20). SB—Benintendi (10).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Detroit						
Lewicki L,0-1	3⅔	5	4	2	3	2
Saupold	2⅓	4	2	2	2	1
Farmer	1	0	0	0	0	1
Reininger	1	1	0	0	0	2
Boston						
Wright W,2-0	7	2	0	0	3	6
Velazquez	1	1	0	0	0	0
Workman	1	0	0	0	0	0

T—2:41. A—34,762 (37,731).

Yankees 7, Blue Jays 2

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Gardner lf	5	0	1	0	T.Hrnnd lf	4	1	1	1
Stanton rf	5	1	2	0	Solarte 3b	4	0	1	0
Bird 1b	4	0	1	0	Smoak 1b	3	0	0	0
G.Sanch c	4	1	1	0	Morales dh	4	0	0	0
Grgrius ss	2	2	0	0	Pillar cf	3	1	1	1
A.Hicks cf	3	2	1	3	R.Mrtin c	3	0	0	0
Andujar 3b	3	1	2	4	Grichuk rf	3	0	0	0
Austin dh	4	0	1	0	A.Diaz ss	3	0	0	0
G.Trres 2b	4	0	0	0	D.Trvis 2b	3	0	0	0
Totals	34	7	9	7	**Totals**	30	2	3	2

New York	000	000	430—7
Toronto	000	001	100—2

DP—Toronto 1. LOB—New York 4, Toronto 2. 2B—Stanton (11), Bird (3). HR—A.Hicks (6), Andujar (7), T.Hernandez (9), Pillar (5). SB—Gregorius (8). CS—Gardner (1), Austin (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
New York						
Sabathia W,3-1	7	3	2	2	1	6
Robertson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Shreve	1	0	0	0	0	2
Toronto						
Estrada	6	6	1	1	0	6
Oh L,1-2 BS,1	1	1	3	3	1	1
Biagini	⅔	1	1	1	0	1
Loup	⅓	1	2	2	1	1
Mayza	1	0	0	0	0	0

M.Estrada pitched to 1 batter in the 7th HBP—by Oh (Gregorius), by Loup (Andujar). WP—Biagini. T—2:38. A—29,308 (53,506).

Orioles 2, Mets 1

Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Mancini lf	4	1	2	0	Nimmo lf	4	0	0	0
Gntry pr-lf-rf	0	0	0	0	A.Cbrra 2b	4	0	0	0
A.Jones cf	4	1	1	0	Cnforto cf	4	0	0	0
M.Mchdo ss	4	0	1	1	T.Frzer 3b	4	0	0	0
Vlencia 3b	3	0	0	1	Bruce rf	3	1	2	0
Trumbo rf	3	0	0	0	Plwecki c	3	0	1	0
Rickard pr-lf	0	0	0	0	A.Gnzal 1b	3	0	0	0
Schoop 2b	4	0	1	0	J.Vrgas p	1	0	0	0
C.Davis 1b	2	0	0	0	J.Btsta ph	0	0	0	1
Wynns c	3	0	1	0	S.Lugo p	0	0	0	0
Cobb p	2	0	0	0	Gllorme ph	1	0	0	0
Givens p	0	0	0	0	Swarzak p	0	0	0	0
Bleier p	0	0	0	0	A.Rsrio ss	2	0	0	0
Brach p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	29	2	6	2	**Totals**	29	1	3	1

Baltimore	200	000	000—2
New York	000	010	000—1

E—Valencia (4). DP—Baltimore 1, New York 2. LOB—Baltimore 4, New York 5. 2B—Plawecki (2). SB—M.Machado (3). SF—Valencia (2), J.Bautista (1). S—Cobb (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
Cobb W,2-7	6	2	1	1	1	7
Givens H,6	1⅓	1	0	0	1	2
Bleier H,7	⅔	0	0	0	0	0
Brach S,9-10	1	0	0	0	1	0
New York						
Vargas L,2-4	5	5	2	2	1	4
Lugo	3	1	0	0	0	2
Swarzak	1	0	0	0	1	1

WP—Givens. T—2:33. A—25,342 (41,922).

Nationals 4, Rays 2

Tampa Bay	ab	r	h	bi	Washington	ab	r	h	bi
Dan.Rbr ss	4	0	0	0	T.Trner ss	4	0	0	0
Cron 1b	4	0	0	0	Harper rf	4	0	0	0
Wendle 2b	4	0	1	0	Rendon 3b	4	0	0	0
W.Ramos c	4	0	0	0	M.Adams 1b	3	1	1	1
M.Duffy 3b	3	1	1	0	J.Soto lf	2	2	1	0
Gomez rf	3	1	1	0	M.Tylor cf	3	0	1	0
M.Smith cf	3	0	0	0	Difo 2b	3	1	1	2
Rfsnydr lf	0	0	0	0	P.Svrno c	3	0	0	0
Field lf-cf	3	0	1	0	Schrzer p	3	0	0	0
Eovaldi p	1	0	0	0	Dlittle p	0	0	0	0
Arroyo ph	1	0	0	0					
Font p	0	0	0	0					
B.Mller ph	1	0	1	2					
Stanek p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	31	2	5	2	**Totals**	29	4	4	3

Tampa Bay	000	000	020—2
Washington	020	200	00x—4

DP—Washington 1. LOB—Tampa Bay 2, Washington 2. 2B—Field (6), B.Miller (9). 3B—Difo (3). HR—M.Adams (13).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Tampa Bay						
Eovaldi L,1-1	5	4	4	4	1	4
Font	2	0	0	0	0	1
Stanek	1	0	0	0	0	3
Washington						
Scherzer W,10-1	8	5	2	2	0	13
Doolittle S,15-16	1	0	0	0	0	1

WP—Eovaldi. T—2:16. A—32,165 (41,313).

Diamondbacks 3, Giants 2

Arizona	ab	r	h	bi	San Francisco	ab	r	h	bi
Ahmed ss	5	0	1	0	G.Hrnan cf	4	0	0	0
D.Prlta lf	5	0	1	0	Posey c	5	0	1	1
Gldschm 1b	4	0	3	0	A.Jcksn pr	0	0	0	0
J.Mrphy c	4	0	0	0	McCtchn rf	5	0	2	0
K.Marte 2b	4	1	1	0	Lngoria 3b	5	0	1	0
Owings cf-rf	4	1	2	1	Wllmson lf	4	1	1	0
Marrero 3b	4	1	0	0	B.Crwfr ss	2	0	1	1
Negron rf	2	0	1	1	Sndoval 1b	4	0	1	0
J.Dyson ph-cf	1	0	0	0	Panik 2b	3	0	0	0
Corbin p	2	0	0	0	Bmgrner p	2	0	0	0
Chafin p	0	0	0	0	Mlancon p	0	0	0	0
Hirano p	0	0	0	0	Pence ph	0	0	0	0
Bradley p	0	0	0	0	S.Dyson p	0	0	0	0
Lamb ph	1	0	1	1	Strckln p	0	0	0	0
Bxbrger p	0	0	0	0	Hanson ph	1	1	1	0
Totals	36	3	10	3	**Totals**	35	2	8	2

Arizona	020	000	001—3
San Francisco	000	010	001—2

E—Posey (2). DP—San Francisco 1. LOB—Arizona 8, San Francisco 11. 2B—Goldschmidt (10), K.Marte (10), Owings (8), Williamson (4), B.Crawford (14), Hanson (6). S—Corbin (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arizona						
Corbin W,6-2	6⅓	4	1	1	2	7
Chafin H,6	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Hirano H,11	⅓	0	0	0	2	0
Bradley H,16	1	1	0	0	1	1
Boxberger S,14-15	1	3	1	1	0	1
San Francisco						
Bumgarner L,0-1	6	8	2	2	0	3
Melancon	1	0	0	0	0	2
Dyson	1	0	0	0	0	2
Strickland	1	2	1	1	1	0

WP—Melancon. T—3:05. A—36,925 (41,915).

Rockies 9, Reds 6

Colorado	ab	r	h	bi	Cincinnati	ab	r	h	bi
LMahieu 2b	5	1	1	0	Winker rf	4	0	1	1
Blckmon cf	5	2	3	1	Brnhart c	5	1	3	2
Arenado 3b	3	2	1	0	Votto 1b	5	1	3	0
C.Gnzal rf	5	2	3	4	Suarez 3b	5	0	2	0
Story ss	5	0	0	0	Gennett 2b	5	0	2	1
Parra lf	4	0	2	1	Duvall lf	5	0	2	1
Desmond 1b	4	1	1	0	Schbler cf	5	2	2	1
Innetta c	3	1	1	2	Peraza ss	4	1	1	0
Freland p	2	0	0	1	DSclfni p	1	0	0	0
Dunn p	0	0	0	0	Dixon ph	1	0	0	0
Tuchman ph	0	0	0	0	Brice p	0	0	0	0
McGee p	0	0	0	0	W.Prlta p	0	0	0	0
B.Shaw p	0	0	0	0	Blndino ph	1	0	0	0
W.Davis p	0	0	0	0	Floro p	0	0	0	0
					Garrett p	0	0	0	0
					Casali ph	1	1	1	0
Totals	36	9	12	9	**Totals**	42	6	17	6

Colorado	220	002	300—9
Cincinnati	000	010	203—6

DP—Cincinnati 2. LOB—Colorado 5, Cincinnati 10. 2B—Casali (1). 3B—Blackmon (4). HR—C.Gonzalez (6), Iannetta (5), Schebler (8). CS—Parra (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Colorado						
Freeland W,6-5	6⅔	9	3	3	1	7
Dunn	⅓	1	0	0	0	0
McGee	1	2	0	0	0	2
Shaw	⅔	5	3	3	0	0
Davis S,19-21	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Cincinnati						
DeSclafani L,0-1	5	6	4	4	1	5
Brice	1	3	2	2	2	0
Peralta	1	2	3	3	1	1
Floro	1	0	0	0	1	0
Garrett	1	1	0	0	0	2

WP—Shaw. T—3:16. A—21,944 (42,319).

Phillies 6, Cubs 1

Philadelphia	ab	r	h	bi	Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
C.Hrnan 2b	4	1	1	0	Zobrist 2b	4	0	1	0
O.Hrrra cf	4	1	1	0	Heyward rf	4	0	1	0
Kingery ss	5	1	1	0	Bryant 3b	4	1	2	0
C.Sntna 1b	3	1	1	1	Rizzo 1b	4	0	2	1
Altherr rf	3	1	1	2	Cntrras c	3	0	1	0
N.Wllms lf	5	1	1	3	Schwrbr lf	2	0	1	0
Franco 3b	3	0	1	0	J.Baez ss	4	0	0	0
Alfaro c	4	0	1	0	Almora cf	4	0	0	0
Eflin p	4	0	1	0	Hndrcks p	1	0	0	0
E.Ramos p	0	0	0	0	L Stlla ph	1	0	0	0
Dmnguez p	0	0	0	0	Mazzoni p	0	0	0	0
					Gimenez ph	1	0	0	0
					R.Rsrio p	0	0	0	0
					I.Happ ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	35	6	9	6	**Totals**	33	1	8	1

Philadelphia	023	000	001—6
Chicago	000	000	010—1

DP—Philadelphia 1. LOB—Philadelphia 9, Chicago 8. 2B—C.Santana (14), Rizzo (8), Schwarber (8). HR—N.Williams (7). SF—Altherr (2). S—Schwarber (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Philadelphia						
Eflin W,2-2	7⅔	8	1	1	1	2
Ramos	⅓	0	0	0	1	0
Dominguez	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chicago						
Hendricks L,4-5	5	5	5	5	3	5
Mazzoni	2	1	0	0	2	2
Rosario	2	3	1	1	1	0

E.Ramos pitched to 1 batter in the 9th WP—Dominguez. T—2:46. A—40,553 (41,649).

Rangers 7, Athletics 4

Oakland	ab	r	h	bi	Texas	ab	r	h	bi
Semien ss	5	0	0	0	Choo lf	4	1	1	2
Pinder lf-rf	5	1	1	0	Guzman 1b	0	0	0	0
Lowrie 2b	5	1	1	0	Knr-Flf 3b	3	0	0	0
K.Davis dh	3	2	2	2	Mazara rf	4	0	0	0
M.Olson 1b	5	0	3	2	Beltre dh	4	1	1	1
M.Chpmn 3b	3	0	0	0	Profar ss	3	2	1	1
Canha cf-lf	4	0	1	0	Gallo 1b-lf	3	1	1	2
Pscotty rf	3	0	1	0	R.Chrns c	4	1	1	1
Du.Fwlr ph-cf	1	0	0	0	Odor 2b	3	0	2	0
Lucroy c	3	0	1	0	DShelds cf	3	1	1	0
Totals	37	4	10	4	**Totals**	31	7	8	7

Oakland	200	010	100—4
Texas	000	101	23x—7

LOB—Oakland 10, Texas 6. 2B—Pinder (7), Lowrie (15), K.Davis (11). HR—K.Davis (14), Choo (10), Beltre (2), Profar (4), Gallo (16), R.Chirinos (8). CS—Gallo (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Oakland						
Manaea	5⅓	4	2	2	4	2
Dull H,4	⅔	0	0	0	0	0
Petit BS,2	1	2	2	2	0	1
Trivino L,3-1	⅓	2	3	3	1	1
Pagan	⅔	0	0	0	1	1
Texas						
Moore	6	8	3	3	2	2
Claudio	⅓	2	1	1	1	0
Leclerc	⅔	0	0	0	0	1
Martin W,1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kela S,14-14	1	0	0	0	0	3

HBP—by Leclerc (Chapman). T—2:52. A—19,470 (49,115).

Calendar

June 13-14 — Owners' meetings, New York.

June 15 — International amateur signing period closes.

July 2 — International amateur signing period opens.

MLB

Nats' Scherzer fans 13 to earn 10th win

By Patrick Stevens
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Max Scherzer kept throwing strikes and the Tampa Bay Rays kept making outs.

It was just another efficient outing for the Washington Nationals ace, who pitched eight strong innings Tuesday in a 4-2 victory to become the first 10-game winner in the majors this season.

Scherzer (10-1) won his ninth consecutive decision, striking out 13 while throwing 81 of his 99 pitches for strikes.

"I looked up at one time and he had 86 pitches (and) 70 strikes," Tampa Bay manager Kevin Cash said. "It's absurd. Guys just don't do that. There's a lot of good pitchers in this league, but for a guy to just sit there and pound the strike zone the way he did and not give up hard hits, it's just really telling about how special a pitcher he is."

Scherzer struck out Johnny Field, Christian Arroyo and Daniel Robertson on a combined nine pitches in the sixth inning. It was the third nine pitch/three strikeout inning in Nationals history and the first since Scherzer did it against Philadelphia on May 14, 2017.

Scherzer joins Hall of Famers Lefty Grove, Randy Johnson, Sandy Koufax and Nolan Ryan as the only pitchers to accomplish the feat twice.

"I honestly didn't know I had it; then I walked off the field and I was like 'Wait a second, I think that was it,'" Scherzer said.

Sean Doolittle pitched the ninth for his 15th save.

Scherzer, who has struck out 25 over 16 innings in his last two starts, scattered five hits to Tampa Bay and did not allow a runner past second base until pinch hitter Brad Miller's two-out double in the eighth.

"Twenty-five out of 28 first-pitch strikes," Washington manager Dave Martinez said. "That's pretty much as good as it gets. He was awesome tonight."

Washington first baseman Matt Adams' solo homer to lead off the second opened the scoring. Juan Soto then singled, moved to third on Michael A. Taylor's single and slid under Wilson Ramos' tag when first baseman C.J. Cron threw home on Wilmer Difo's grounder.

Soto and Difo were central to a fourth-inning rally. Two batters after Soto worked a walk, Difo tripled to right-center and made it 4-0 when he slid under Tampa Bay starter Nathan Eovaldi's tag after a wild pitch.

Eovaldi (1-1) gave up four runs in five innings in his second start back from Tommy John surgery.

"I feel like I was ahead in most of the counts tonight," Eovaldi said. "I just couldn't put them away. I just couldn't get that splitter going and the cutter wasn't as good as it was in that opening start."

Ramos, a National from 2010 to 2016, received an ovation before his first at-bat and went 0-for-4 in his first game in Washington since departing as a free agent.

New territory: Tuesday marked the first of Tampa Bay's 10 games in National League parks, and Cash had some simple instructions for his pitchers who have to hit for the first time this season.

"You just hope they don't hurt themselves," Cash said. "I know Archer got a big hit in Wrigley for us (last year) and helped us win a game. Other than that, they all kind of looked like me at the plate. It's better they stand in the batter's box, don't swing, don't pull an oblique and if we ask you to get a bunt down, don't get your fingers pinched."

Eovaldi lined to second in his lone at bat.

Alex Brandon/AP

Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer delivers during the third inning of Tuesday's game against the Tampa Bay Rays at Nationals Park in Washington. Scherzer struck out 13.

Fred Thornhill, The Canadian Press/AP

The New York Yankees' Aaron Hicks, right, celebrates with Giancarlo Stanton after hitting a three-run home run against the Blue Jays during the eighth inning of Tuesday's game in Toronto.

Roundup

Andujar's slam lifts Yankees over Jays

Associated Press

TORONTO — Miguel Andujar first got manager Aaron Boone's attention at spring training.

Two months into his rookie season, Andujar's impressive hitting is getting attention all around the major leagues.

Andujar hit his first career grand slam, CC Sabathia pitched seven innings to snap a five-start winless streak and the New York Yankees beat the Toronto Blue Jays 7-2 on Tuesday night.

Aaron Hicks added a three-run blast as the Yankees won for the sixth time in seven games. New York is 30-9 since a 9-9 start.

Andujar connected off right-hander Seunghwan Oh (1-2) in the seventh, his seventh home run of the season.

"I feel really excited for that," Andujar said. "Another record for my career."

Andujar leads all big league rookies with 29 extra-base hits this season.

"It's been really impressive," Boone said. "He's been so important to what we've been able to do, especially offensively and the length of our lineup.

"When I first saw him in spring, he kind of leapt off the screen to me, as far as swinging the bat," Boone added. "He can really hit. Look, I think he can be a really good hitter in this league for a long time."

Sabathia (3-1) allowed two runs and three hits to win for the first time since April 29 against the Los Angeles Angels. The seven innings matched his season high.

"He was terrific," Boone said. "That's as good as we've seen him, maybe."

Sabathia walked one and struck out six, one shy of his season best.

"I knew they were going to be aggressive so I was just trying to match their aggressiveness in the strike zone," Sabathia said.

Diamondbacks 3, Giants 2: Madison Bumgarner (0-1) tossed six solid innings in his long-awaited season debut but was outpitched by Patrick Corbin (6-2) as visiting Arizona snapped San Francisco's five-game winning streak.

Angels 1, Royals 0: Andrew Heaney (3-4) pitched a one-hitter on his 27th birthday to lead host Los Angeles past Kansas City.

Red Sox 6, Tigers 0: J.D. Martinez hit his 20th home run, Steven Wright (2-0) pitched seven sharp innings in his first start of the season and host Boston blanked Detroit.

Dodgers 5, Pirates 0: Joc Pederson, Yaisel Puig and Cody Bellinger hit home runs and surging Los Angeles won its fourth straight and 14th in the last 18 by beating host Pittsburgh.

Twins 4, 3; White Sox 2, 6: Jose Abreu hit a two-run homer in the first inning of the second game of a doubleheader to spoil Zack Littell's (0-1) major league debut and help visiting Chicago bounce back from a late lapse in the opener.

In the first game, Eduardo Escobar hit a three-run homer with two outs in the eighth against Nate Jones (2-2) as the Twins ruined a stellar start by White Sox right-hander Reynaldo Lopez.

Orioles 2, Mets 1: Alex Cobb delivered his best performance since signing a rich contract with Baltimore late in spring training, helping his team break a seven-game losing streak by beating host New York.

Indians 3, Brewers 2: Corey Kluber (9-2) scattered seven hits in seven strong innings and moved into a tie for the American League lead with his ninth win, leading host Cleveland past Milwaukee.

Rockies 9, Reds 6: Chris Iannetta hit a two-run homer off Anthony DeSclafani (0-1) in his return to the mound, and Carlos Gonzalez added a three-run shot to power visiting Colorado past Cincinnati.

Mariners 7, Astros 1: Kyle Seager, Mike Zunino and Jean Segura all homered off Dallas Keuchel (3-8) early to back up another solid start by James Paxton and lead visiting Seattle to its fifth straight win.

Rangers 7, Athletics 4: Adrian Beltre led off the eighth inning with a tiebreaking homer, one of host Texas' season-high five on the night.

Phillies 6, Cubs 1: Zach Eflin (2-2) pitched into the eighth inning, Nick Williams homered and visiting Philadelphia snapped a three-game slide with a win over Chicago.

Marlins 7, Cardinals 4: Brian Anderson and J.T. Riddle homered to help a shaky Jose Urena (1-7) get his first win of the season as visiting Miami stopped a six-game losing streak by beating St. Louis.

Braves 14, Padres 1: Freddie Freeman homered among his four hits, Dansby Swanson and Nick Markakis also went deep and visiting Atlanta routed San Diego.

BELMONT STAKES/WORLD CUP

Justify draws No. 1 post for Triple try

By Beth Harris
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Something Bob Baffert always dreads has come true ahead of the Belmont Stakes: Justify drew the No. 1 post for the colt's bid to sweep the Triple Crown.

The Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner was made the early 4-5 favorite in the 10-horse field for Saturday's race.

Baffert is not a fan of the inside post for his horses, no matter what the race.

"I never do like to draw the rail, but my horses seem to live in it," he said Tuesday. "We have it, we can't change it. We'll deal with it."

And history may be on Justify's side.

Since 1905, a leading 23 horses have won from the No. 1 post. The last to win from there was Empire Maker in 2003 when he spoiled Funny Cide's Triple Crown bid.

"He is so talented, I think he can dictate the race," Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas said of Justify. "That is the thing that makes him very tough to beat. He can pick his spots. He is the key to how all of us run."

Justify won the first two legs of the series from the No. 7 post. He ran on sloppy tracks both times and the forecast for Saturday calls for a 60 percent chance of rain.

This time the No. 7 hole went to Tenfold. The colt was a fast-closing third in the Preakness and is 12-1 for the Belmont.

Hofburg was made the 9-2 second choice. Trained by Hall of Famer Bill Mott, the colt finished seventh in the Kentucky Derby and skipped the Preakness.

The only other horses with single-digit odds are Preakness runner-up Bravazo and Vino Rosso, both at 8-1. Vino Rosso finished ninth in the Derby and didn't run in the Preakness.

Baffert is seeking a second Triple Crown victory in four years. American Pharoah ended a 37-year drought when he completed the sweep in 2015. He broke from the No. 1 post in the Preakness.

In the 2010 Kentucky Derby, Baffert had the favorite with Lookin At Lucky, who broke from the No. 1 hole. The colt was pinned to the rail and had nowhere to go until a late run helped him finish sixth. He won the Preakness.

"Everybody is always joking in my family, [wife] Jill is always saying, 'They should just put you in the one hole and just draw the rest of the race,'" Baffert said. "I had a feeling I was due for the one."

Jockey Mike Smith will need to use Justify's speed to get him away from the starting gate before the rest of the field comes over on him along the rail.

"It's all you can hope for," Baffert said. "He is on the inside, so he can sort of dictate what's going to go, what's happening."

Justify and Bravazo, trained by Lukas, are the only two horses that will have run in all three Triple Crown races. Bravazo was sixth in the Derby and came running late to finish a half-length behind Justify in the Preakness.

"One of these horses or two maybe has to run a little bit better than you would expect them to [to win], mine included," Lukas said.

Baffert has another horse in the race: Restoring Hope, the third-place finisher in the Wood Memorial. Smith rode him in his last race on the Derby undercard, but will be replaced by Florent Geroux on Saturday.

Justify draws No. 1 post

Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Justify will break from the No. 1 post as the early favorite in the Belmont Stakes as the colt tries to complete a Triple Crown sweep.

PP	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Odds
1	**Justify**	M. Smith	B. Baffert	4-5
2	**Free Drop Billy**	R. Albarado	D. Romans	30-1
3	**Bravazo**	L. Saez	D. Lukas	8-1
4	**Hofburg**	I. Ortiz	W. Mott	9-2
5	**Restoring Hope**	F. Geroux	B. Baffert	30-1
6	**Gronkowski**	J. Ortiz	C. Brown	12-1
7	**Tenfold**	R. Santana Jr.	S. Asmussen	12-1
8	**Vino Rosso**	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	8-1
9	**Noble Indy**	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	30-1
10	**Blended Citizen**	K. Frey	D. O'Neill	15-1

NOTE: Post positions may differ from program numbers

Weights: 126 pounds **Distance:** 1 1/2 miles **Purse:** $1.5 million
First place: $800,000 **Second place:** $280,000 **Third place:** $150,000
Fourth place: $100,000 **Fifth:** $60,000 **Post time:** 6:46 p.m. EDT

AP

Nathan Denette, The Canadian Press/AP

Sounders defender Roman Torres, right, is a prime example of how tenuous the balance can be for both players and their club teams as the World Cup nears. Torres felt a tweak in his hamstring in April.

Balance between country, club gets tricky during World Cup

By Tim Booth
Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Kendall Waston was surrounded by Vancouver teammates when the Whitecaps coach, Carl Robinson, informed him he had made Costa Rica's 23-man World Cup roster for the first time.

The applause, warm wishes and water-bottle shower that followed were a sign of respect and admiration. Waston is Vancouver's captain, and his play with the Whitecaps is largely why he's headed to Russia.

Of course, the moment Waston made that Costa Rican roster, his priorities changed.

Waston says the Whitecaps "treat me like a family" and "have helped me a lot," providing the exposure and experience necessary to crack a World Cup roster. But like many other Russia-bound MLS players, the last thing he wants is to invite any needless risks that might jeopardize his participation in Russia. Keeping the club competitive and staying fit and healthy to represent your country can become a delicate balance.

While most leagues around the world stop play in early-to-mid May, the MLS schedule marches on, and many players headed to Russia stuck with their MLS teams through the end of May before joining their national teams.

"I think that each day you have to work harder to be in good standing with the club, first of all," Seattle Sounders and Panama defender Roman Torres said through an interpreter. "Each day with the club, I am training to the fullest to obtain the triumphs that we're trying to achieve. ... It's important to be physically fit and mentally strong as you arrive from the club to your national team."

Torres is a prime example of how tenuous the balance can be for both players and their club teams as the World Cup nears. During pregame warmups on April 29, Torres strained his hamstring. In the days after Torres was hurt, Seattle coach Brian Schmetzer said, "it's not good. It's not good."

> **'It's important to be physically fit and mentally strong as you arrive from the club to your national team.'**
>
> **Roman Torres**
> Seattle Sounders and Panama defender

What Schmetzer meant was the wide impact Torres' injury had. It was significant to Seattle in the short-term and had a trickle-down effect for Panama. Torres had to sit out four games to properly rest the injury at a time Seattle could have used it's starting defender. He spent most of May rehabbing instead of joining Panama in top form. And he's at greater risk for aggravating the injury during the World Cup.

"It's always challenging and it's been challenging for us as a club because we've always had a lot of internationals on our roster," Schmetzer said.

Injury is typically the primary concern, and the fallout can be significant. In Europe, England's Alex Oxlaide-Chamberlin and France's Laurent Koscielny were lost from World Cup consideration due to major injuries suffered late in their club seasons. A final capper to the season were the injuries suffered by Mohamed Salah (Egypt) and Dani Carvajal (Spain) in the UEFA Champions League final.

For others who sit on the cusp of making their national teams, the consideration of injury and overall health isn't allowed to be a factor. Give less than 100 percent effort, and performance could diminish, and selection for the World Cup might not happen.

"It's not an easy time for the players, because that's obviously on their minds," said LAFC and former U.S. coach Bob Bradley.

Gustav Svensson has seemed a lock for Sweden after he played significant minutes in its World Cup qualifying playoff win over Italy. And while the thought of what lies ahead in Russia would sometimes creep into his mind during training, he did his best to push it aside when it came to games for Seattle.

"I think it's dangerous to start thinking about that," Svensson said. "I think it's dangerous if you start not going into 100 percent in every challenge. I think easier to get injured if you start lacking in a little bit of some things."

Clint Dempsey played in three World Cups for the U.S., two while playing in MLS and one while in England. He said that either way, the top concern for players this time of year is the challenge of staying in top shape.

"I couldn't say which one is more difficult because you have a short career you want to make the most of it," Dempsey said. "You don't want to complain and you make the most of what your situation is whether you play domestically for club or playing in Europe. You want to be playing well because if you're playing well for your club you'll always get called into the national team."

AP Sports Writer Anne M. Peterson contributed to this report.

SPORTS BRIEFS/FRENCH OPEN

Briefly

Florida State claims softball national title

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Jessie Warren's career finished just the way she envisioned it.

On Monday night, Florida State's star third baseman made perhaps the play of her career, a diving catch and throw for a double play that helped preserve a 1-0 win over Washington in Game 1 of the Women's College World Series championship series.

On Tuesday night, the senior did the damage with her bat. She had three hits, including a homer, and Florida State beat Washington 8-3 to claim its first national title.

Warren, who hit .520 in the World Series, was named most outstanding player. As it all sunk in, tears started to flow.

"I think that's every senior's dream, is to leave with a 'W,' to end their season on a 'W,'" she said. "That was one of the goals. I am so proud of this team. This university has done so much for me. This coaching staff has taken me under their belt as their own child. I came into this program as a kid and I'm leaving it as a strong woman. I wouldn't have wanted it any other way."

The Seminoles (58-12) won the best-of-three championship series 2-0. They lost their opener before winning six straight to become just the third team to come through the losers' bracket and take the title.

Florida State pitcher Meghan King settled down after a rough start to complete a record-setting World Series. She broke the record for lowest ERA (0.20) among pitchers who threw at least 10 innings. She earned four wins and a save in Oklahoma City while allowing just one earned run in 34⅓ innings. She was on such a run that Florida State's ace throughout the season, Kylee Hanson, never had to pitch in the championship series.

It was the first national title for an Atlantic Coast Conference team.

Islanders gut staff, Lamoriello takes charge

Lou Lamoriello moved quickly to shake up the New York Islanders by firing coach Doug Weight and general manager Garth Snow and naming himself the team's new GM just two weeks after taking over as president of hockey operations.

Lamoriello made the moves Tuesday that begin to reshape the organization in his image, two weeks to the day ownership said he'd have "full authority over all hockey matters." Lamoriello left the Toronto Maple Leafs to run the Islanders and will begin the search for a new coach immediately.

"It's my opinion that at this point there's a culture change that's needed and there's new voices needed in different areas and because of that, the changes (were) made," Lamoriello said on a conference call with reporters. "There's been a lot of changes for different reasons, and right now is just trying to stabilize anything, start off with a fresh face, start off with a fresh mind, a fresh coach and just go forward."

The end of Snow's tenure seemed inevitable after owners Jon Ledecky and Scott Malkin brought in Lamoriello to oversee the hockey operations department. Snow was previous owner Charles Wang's hire.

The Islanders missed the playoffs eight times in Snow's 12 years as general manager, including the past two seasons. He has four years left on the contract he signed when Wang still owned the team.

Gymnastics exec claims sexual abuse cover-up

WASHINGTON — The former president of USA Gymnastics refused to answer questions Tuesday from a Senate subcommittee about how he handled allegations of sexual abuse by former team doctor Larry Nassar, and another former executive sat next to him and asserted that her former boss instructed her and others to keep quiet about athletes' claims.

Rhonda Faehn, the former senior vice president of USA Gymnastics, said she first reported an allegation against Nassar to Steve Penny, her then-boss, on June 17, 2015. Nassar was not arrested until more than a year later. He is now serving decades in prison for sexual assault and possession of child pornography, and hundreds of athletes have said they were abused by him, including Olympic gymnasts Aly Raisman, McKayla Maroney and Simone Biles.

The revelations about Nassar's conduct over two decades and the way it was handled by Penny and others have led Congress to call for drastic reforms of the U.S. Olympic Committee, USA Gymnastics and other sports' governing bodies.

Faehn said Penny warned her and others not to discuss the allegations against Nassar and that she wrongly assumed he had taken the allegations to law enforcement.

"He told me not to say anything or do anything because he was going to handle everything going forward," Faehn said in her written testimony, "and he told me he was going to report the concerns to proper authorities, which I assumed included law enforcement."

Faehn reiterated those claims as Penny, who was forced out as president of USA Gymnastics last year, sat silently next to her. When it was his turn to speak, he didn't say much.

Penny invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination six times before he was excused by the panel.

Alessandra Tarantino/AP

Romania's Simona Halep returns the ball to Germany's Angelique Kerber during their quarterfinal match of the French Open at Roland Garros stadium Wednesday in Paris.

Muguruza, Halep move into women's semifinals

By Samuel Petrequin
Associated Press

PARIS — After Angelique Kerber's final backhand bounced out of bounds on Court Suzanne Lenglen, Simona Halep turned to her box and pointed to her head.

Coming from a player whose mental strength has often been questioned, the gesture spoke volumes.

The top-ranked player indeed showed solid nerves to turn things up after a really bad start in her French Open quarterfinal on Wednesday. After 2 hours and 14 minutes, Halep rallied past the 12th-seeded Kerber 6-7 (2), 6-3, 6-2 and reached the French Open semifinals for the third time.

"It was really about the mental," Halep said. "So I think that's why I won today. My head won it."

Halep got off a sluggish start and trailed 4-0 in the opening set. She fought back to force a tiebreaker but briefly lost her focus to drop the set after losing five consecutive points.

"After the first set I just stayed strong, I did not give up at all," Halep said. "I missed a lot at the beginning of the match. I tried to do too much. Then I changed a little bit of tactics and it worked."

Halep broke at the start of the second set and then Kerber dropped her serve again in the ninth game. In the decider, Halep came to the net more often to finish points and opened up a 4-1 lead. She broke again in the eighth game to seal the match.

Halep is still chasing her first Grand Slam title after several near-misses. She led Jelena Ostapenko by a set and 3-0 in last year's final at Roland Garros, but then fell apart and eventually lost to the unseeded Latvian in her second French Open final.

Halep next faces third-seeded Garbine Muguruza, who thrashed Maria Sharapova 6-2, 6-1 in a matchup of past French Open champions.

"I don't feel I'm favorite for this match, because she's played better than I have this year," Muguruza said. "She loves clay. She loves Roland Garros. She's shown it."

The No. 3-seeded Muguruza had lost all three previous meetings against Sharapova, who won two of her five Grand Slam titles at Roland Garros.

Muguruza has not dropped a set so far in this year's tournament as she seeks a second championship in Paris and third major trophy overall. The Spaniard won the French Open in 2016 and Wimbledon last year.

"I think she did a lot of things better than I did. I think she was the aggressive one," Sharapova said. "She had a lot more depth in the ball. I think my shots were a lot more forced. She served a lot better than I did."

Sharapova looked far from her best right from the start, double-faulting three times to get broken in the opening game. She ended up with six double-faults and 27 total unforced errors, 12 more than Muguruza.

In men's play, Rafael Nadal was playing Diego Schwartzman bidding to reach his 11th semifinal at Roland Garros. Two past U.S. Open champions met in the other men's quarterfinal: No. 3 Marin Cilic against No. 5 Juan Martin del Potro.

Scoreboard

Tuesday

At Stade Roland Garros
Paris
Purse: $45,171,750 (Grand Slam)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Men's Singles
Quarterfinals

Marco Cecchinato, Italy, def. Novak Djokovic (20), Serbia, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 1-6, 7-6 (11).

Dominic Thiem (7), Austria, def. Alexander Zverev (2), Germany, 6-4, 6-2, 6-1.

Women's Singles
Quarterfinals

Madison Keys (13), United States, def. Yulia Putintseva, Kazakhstan, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Sloane Stephens (10), United States, def. Daria Kasatkina (14), Russia, 6-3, 6-1.

Men's Doubles
Quarterfinals

Alexander Peya, Austria and Nikola Mektic (8), Croatia, def. Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France and Rohan Bopanna (13), India, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

Oliver Marach, Austria and Mate Pavic (2), Croatia, def. Robert Farah, Colombia and Juan Sebastian Cabal (5), Colombia, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Women's Doubles
Quarterfinals

Zhaoxuan Yang, China and Hao-Ching Chan (8), Taiwan, def. Mihaela Buzarnescu, Romania and Irina Maria Bara, Romania, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic and Katerina Siniakova (6), Czech Republic, def. Andreja Klepac, Slovenia and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez (3), Spain, 6-3, 6-3.

Mixed Doubles
Semifinal

Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada and Mate Pavic (1), Croatia, def. Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico and Katarina Srebotnik, Slovenia, 6-4, 6-4.

SPORTS

Complete control

Nats' Scherzer fans 13 in 4-2 win over Rays » MLB, Page 29

NBA FINALS

GOLDEN AGE

Chasing third title in four years, Warriors spark talk of dynasty

By Janie Mccauley
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif.

Stephen Curry and coach Steve Kerr's Golden State Warriors have repeatedly said they want to build something special for the long haul, to compete for championships year after year.

LeBron James considers his familiar NBA Finals opponent among the best teams ever.

Where the Warriors stack up if they win a third championship in four years will make for a dynasty debate. And their domination doesn't appear to be ending anytime soon, so if they keep winning Golden State will have its place in history.

"As a fan of the NBA, you could go down the list of the teams that won multiple years and just dominated the league for stretches of time," Curry said.

The Warriors are trying to join Bill Russell's Celtics, the Bulls led by Michael Jordan and the Lakers' trio of title runs fueled by George Mikan in the 1950s, Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in the '80s, and Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant nearly 20 years ago as the only franchises in NBA history to capture three championships in four years.

The Warriors are halfway there, holding a 2-0 lead against the underdog Cavs as the series shifts to Cleveland for Game 3 on Wednesday.

"Listen, Golden State is one of the best teams I've ever played. It's one of the best teams that's ever been assembled," said James, who is playing in his eighth straight NBA Finals and fourth in a row against Golden State.

Curry, sharp-shooting Klay Thompson, fiery Draymond Green and 2015 Finals MVP Andre Iguodala make up an All-Star-studded squad trying to repeat after James thwarted that quest two years ago when the Cavs stopped the defending champs. Kevin Durant bolted from Oklahoma City to join the cast last season.

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Counterclockwise from top left: Guard Stephen Curry, forward Andre Iguodala, guard Klay Thompson, coach Steve Kerr, forward Kevin Durant and forward Draymond Green are trying to join the Celtics, Bulls and Lakers by winning three championships in four years. The Warriors lead the NBA Finals 2-0 heading into Wednesday's game.

Photos by Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP

Muguruza, Halep advance to semifinals » French Open, Page 31

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